



*"A little bit less television, a little bit more books on tape.
What's your New Year's resolution?"*



“Which Microsoft millionaire are you thinking about now?”





"O.K.! See you Monday at eight, seven central."





"I'd trade, but peanut butter sticks to my tongue stud."



"Hey, c'mon. This isn't brain surgery."



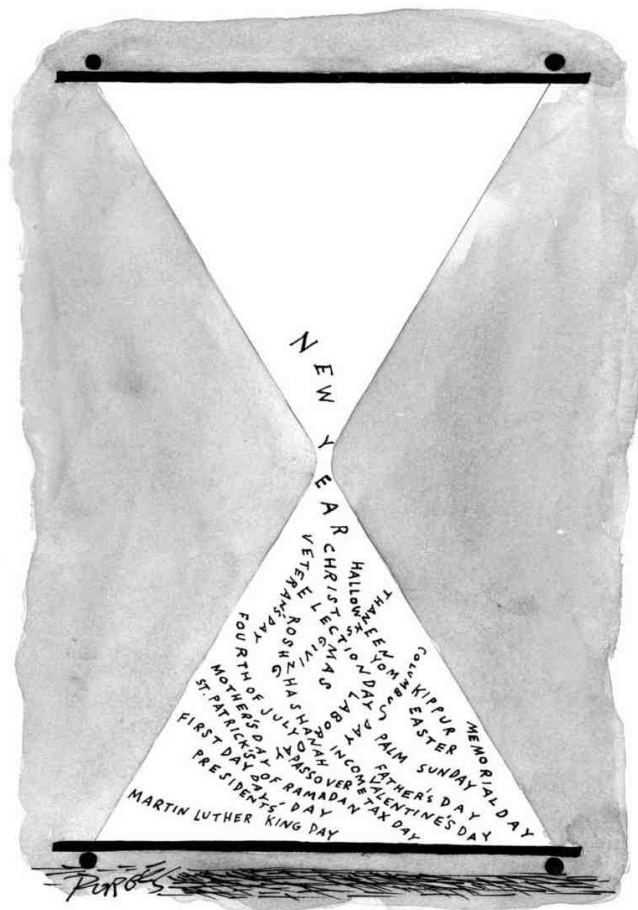
“Son, it’s important to remember that it’s O.K. to be depressed.”



"They're dividing into three groups, Sire. Infantry, cavalry, and media."



"Ah, Mr. Bromley. Nice to put a face on a disease."





"Teri tells me you're ostensibly straight."



“Apparently, it has something to do with el Niño.”



*"It's a game of power, speed, agility, and grace, but,
most of all, Tom, it's a game of points."*



"Frankly, a zillion still sounds high."



"There's nothing wrong with the ship. We just got a better offer."



*"Don't forget to take a handful of our
complimentary antibiotics on your way out."*



*“No need to remind me. I’m well aware that
I’ve forgotten completely about you.”*



*“Global warming, in my opinion,
is the last refuge of an environmentalist.”*



"You can rest assured, Mrs. Wilson, that your husband will receive the best care known to medical coverage."



"I don't feel the pea anymore, but that condom wrapper is killing me."



“Your husband speaks highly of you.”



"Two Stones tickets, please, senior discount."



"I can't explain it. I see that guy coming up the walkway and I go postal."



"I was an investigative journalist until they investigated me."



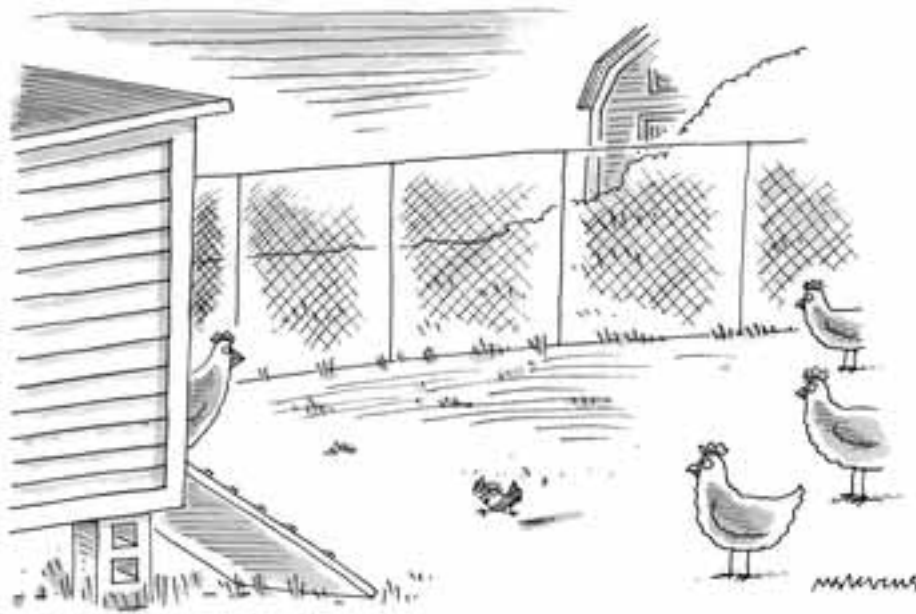
"Women and children first. I mean, come on."



“If only you could have frozen some ideas in your prolific youth.”



"You want the gimmick? Here's the gimmick. Kevin Costner won't produce it, he won't direct it, and he won't star in it."



"The flu is coming! The flu is coming!"



"We want it to look lived in, but not necessarily by us."



*"There are exceptions. Sometimes it's possible to
have buzz without any hype whatsoever."*

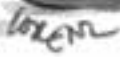








"Must you people always call at dinnertime?"



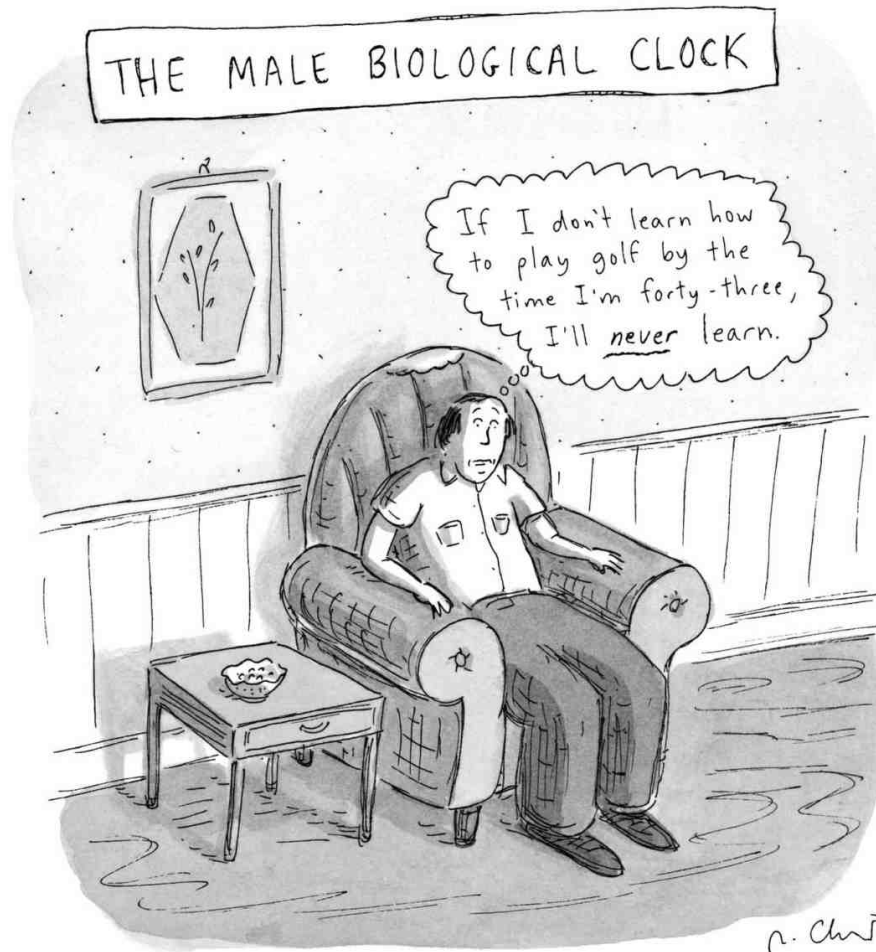
"Jason is cute as a bug, but he sure is one thickheaded little sucker."



“Still, you gotta admit crime is down”



"He's not a biter, he's a humper."

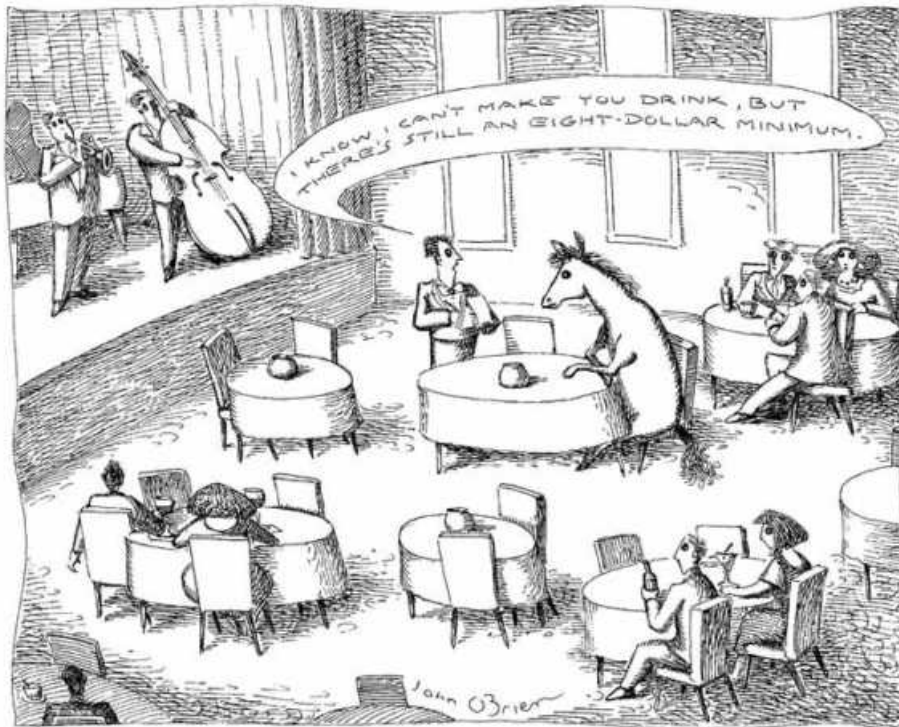




*“Mommy can be tough like Janet Reno.
But she can also be vulnerable like Al Gore.”*



*"I'm taking you off medicinal marijuana and
putting you on medicinal harder stuff."*

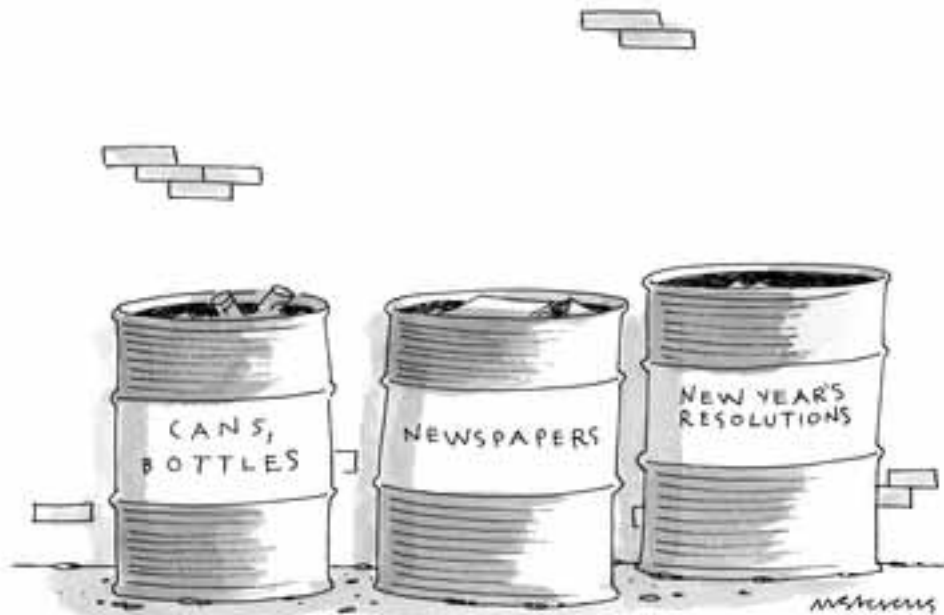




"I'm their real child, and you're just a frozen embryo thingy they bought from some laboratory."



*"Someday, sweetheart, all this will belong
to your ex-husband and his attorney."*





*"What's the final episode
of 'Seinfeld' about?"*

"It's about nothing."



*"We could reshape your nose with conventional surgery,
but I'm going to suggest something radical."*



"We are interested in a cultural exchange. We will give you one of our writers, and you will give us Salman Rushdie."







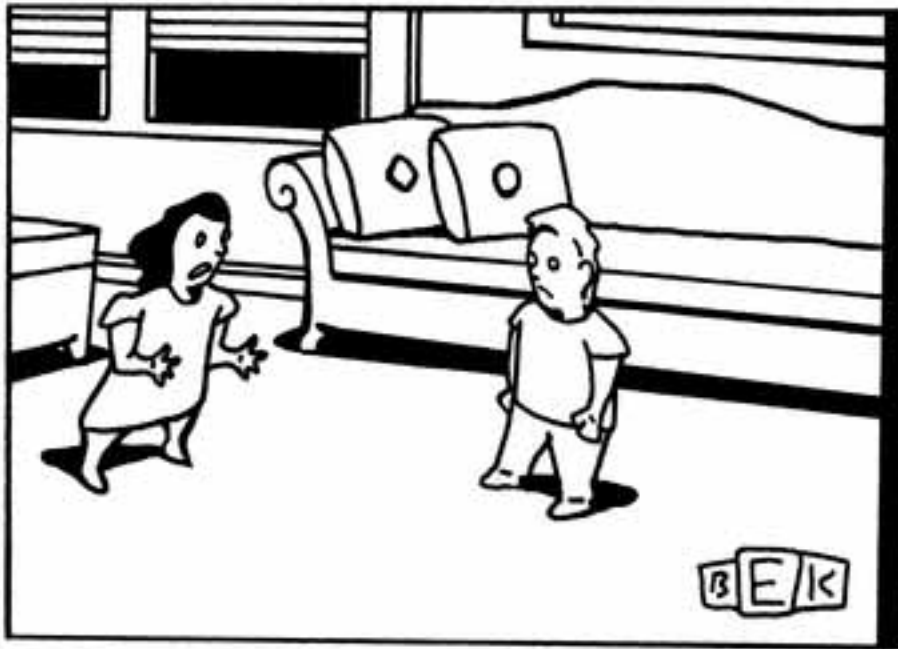
“In order to remain competitive in today’s marketplace, Bentham, I’m afraid we’re going to have to replace you with a sleazeball.”



“How are you doing with that advertising copywriter?”



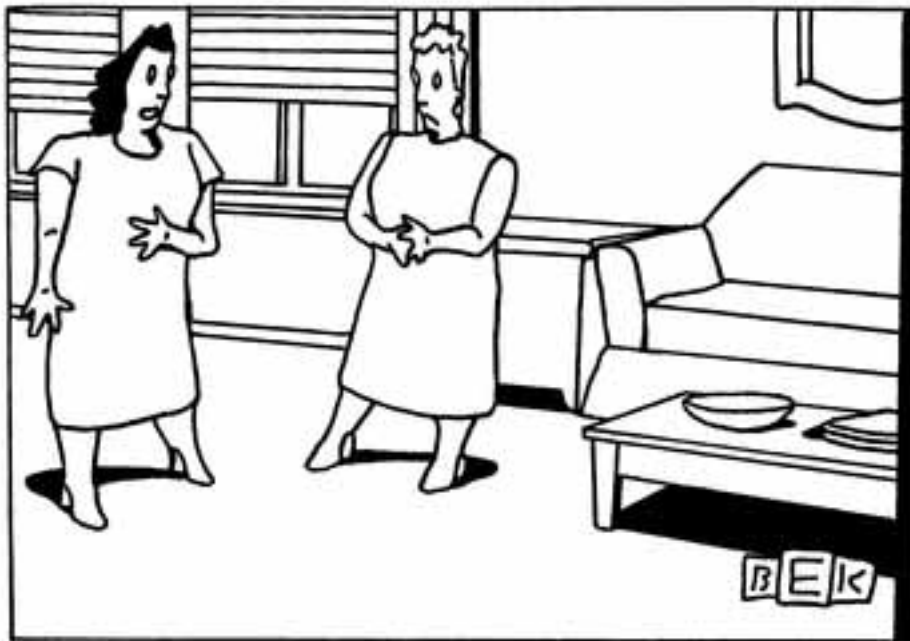
"I'm going to New Zealand for a walk."



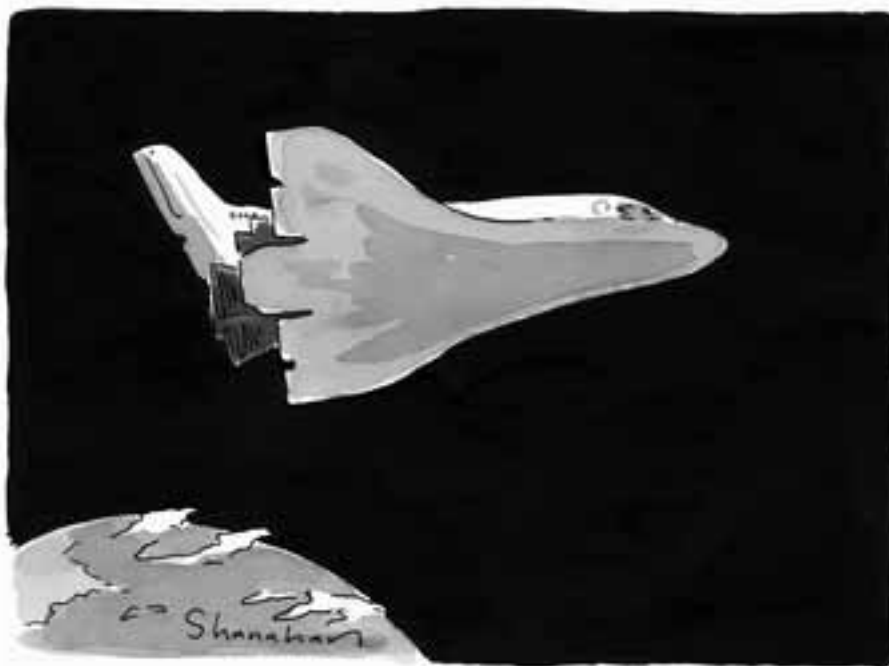
“Why did you speak to Dad? He can’t green-light anything.”



"We think you may be suffering from information underload."



"I finally found a designer with a sweatshop that's right for me."



"You can turn your blinker off now, Senator."



"And if you forget who you're covering I'll be on the sidelines, in Hugo Boss, ready to remind you."



“How long has the Oval Office had a mirror on the ceiling?”



*"I belong to that heroic little band of unemployed
on whom a healthy economy depends."*

AROUND THE WORLD BY BALLOON





"Well, if I felt blue all the time and I found out that Mike Wallace felt blue all the time, it would make me feel lots better."



“Do you want to stay for the credits?”



"My strength is as the strength of ten, because I'm rich."



"The men are excited about getting to shoot a lawyer."

REJECTED SPICE GIRLS





*"Sorry, son. Daddy provides food, clothing, and shelter.
The rest is up to you."*







"Where there's smoke, there's mirrors."



"I think oral sex is when they only just talk about it."



“Any plans for this evening, hon?”







"Let's just do the top layer."

HITTING SADDAM WHERE IT HURTS





maslin

*"Sorry, but you're going to have to remind me who gets
the red wine and who gets the white?"*



*"The one single thought that sustains me is
that the fundamentals are good."*

FURTHER REVELATIONS (1 OF 6)



"I can do a nurse or a teacher, but I don't know anything about White House interns."

FURTHER REVELATIONS (2 OF 6)



FURTHER REVELATIONS (3 OF 6)



*"Sorry we're late, but Kenneth Starr
subpoenaed our regular babysitter."*

FURTHER REVELATIONS (4 OF 6)



"Shoot to kill!"

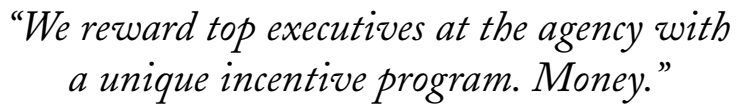
FURTHER REVELATIONS (5 OF 6)

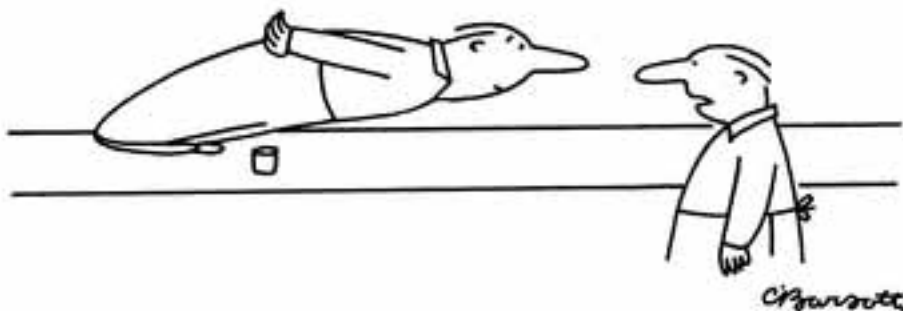


FURTHER REVELATIONS (6 OF 6)



“Look, I’ve denied it—can we move on?”





"O.K., you could have been great. Now get off the bar."



“And now here’s Cathie with the hypothetical portion of the news.”





“Apparently, he’s old rock-and-roll money.”



"The Middle East peace process seems to be moving right along."



"It's a poor craftsman, son, who blames his tools."



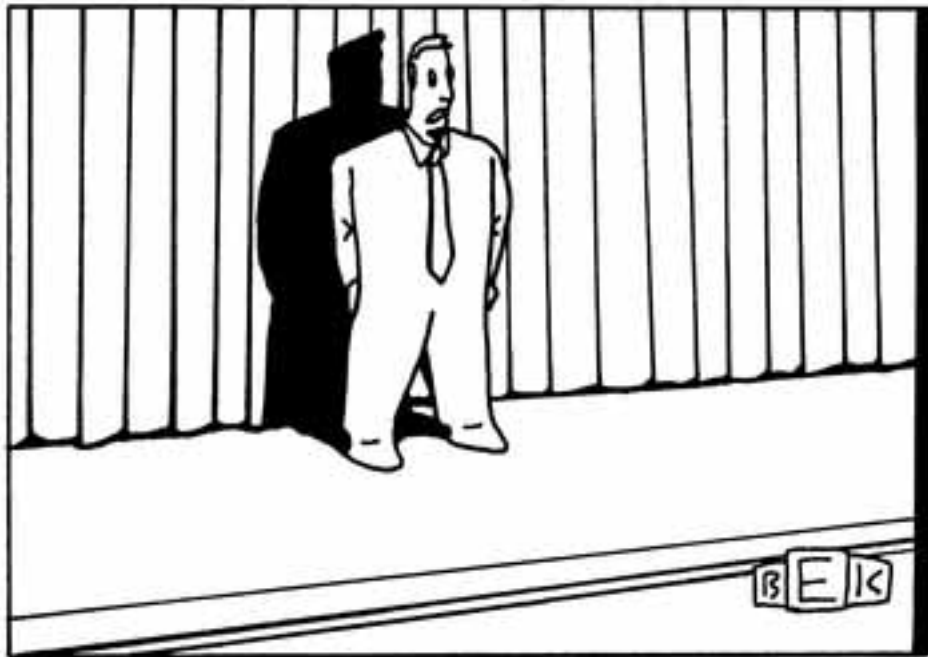
“Bud has a great way with kids, but they don’t know it.”



"Why am I always the bad guy?"



*“It’s been moved and seconded, Cartwright,
that we clap if we believe in fairies.”*



"Tonight's performance has been cancelled because the star of our show has decided that musicals are stupid."



"They thought a wire-free party would put everyone at ease."



"Something from the supplement cart?"

1998

VALENTINES

♥ FROM ♥

Bill



Six years of work gone down the drain,
But no one wants to feel *my* pain.
Kenneth Starr has it in for me,
And you're the one who holds the key.
Humbly, *you know who*



Marriage is a sacred zone,
Private and complex.
It's no one's business but our own
What we do for sex.
Your deeply flawed husband,
Bill



I might be a jerk, but I'm
not a crook.
Someday you can write a book.
Your pop, who is sorry if he
has caused you embarrassment

R. Chm.



"Have we met?"



“Once again, the epicenter seems to be Christian Slater.”



"It's NBC. They want to know what it's personally worth to us for them to keep 'E.R.' on the air."



*"Here's the deal, Kim. I pick up eggs and butter,
but no dry cleaning."*



"I just flew in from the Coast. Boy, are my references tired."



"Must move on. Enjoyed the segment."



"Look, babe. At this point, you've reinvented yourself so many times you're back to who you were at the start."



"Haven't you ever seen California wine being made?"







"We couldn't connect. He kept spouting technobabble, and I, of course, kept coming back with psychobabble."



*“Of course I hope to find gold. But my real goal
is spiritual growth and inner peace.”*



*"We're from the Neighborhood Watch committee.
We've heard you're wearing a fake Rolex."*

WHERE WILL IT ALL END?

Demi Moore actually gains two hundred pounds to play Kate Smith in the upcoming biopic.



Madonna has herself temporarily deafened and blinded in order to portray Helen Keller.



Sylvester Stallone takes a certain drug and grows a hump for his role in next summer's "Quasimodo."



Robert De Niro contracts polio and loses the use of his legs for the filming of "The F.D.R. Saga."





“O.K., this is the West Coast, O.K.? What you want is the East Coast, so turn around and go back twenty-four, twenty-five hundred miles, and that’s the East Coast. You can’t miss it.”



"I was raised in New York and Nancy is from L.A., but we're bringing up the children bicoastal."



"Think of these as the car your face is driving."



"Damn it, Henderson, New York is still three hours ahead of us. Get on that!"



"Take my wife . . . please!"



"You're looking at the next Bob Dylan."



*“One group gets tiny copies of the ‘Times,’
the other gets tiny copies of the ‘Post.’”*



"Whew! I had a close call today."



"Thanks again. You've got a great house and a fun care provider."



"It's a vehicle suitable for both the defensive and the offensive driver."

MIDLIFE CRISES OF APPLIANCES

One day, your VCR will refuse to rewind. The next day, it will rewind perfectly. But the day after that, well, who knows?



Your dishwasher still functions, but it's **VERY, VERY NOISY.**



There's nothing wrong with your blender—just never, ever, **EVER** press "liquefy."



a. chaf



“My lord, Sir Arthur is pleased to bid thee welcome to his food court.”



“Oh, look. Tonight, the role of Dr. Lessac, normally played by some guy I never heard of, is being played by some other guy I never heard of.”



"I hate to say it, but Gore appears to be a regular sort of chap, after all."



*"Sure, it's an eyesore, but we get better time
than anyone else in the neighborhood."*



*"The crab bisque, the tournedos, the bourbon soufflé . . .
Thank you so much for trying."*



“What’s the rush to settle down? You’re only fifty-four.”





*"If you were slipping inexorably into psychosis,
you'd tell me, wouldn't you?"*



"With the Suzuki method, they start them campaigning as early as three or four."



"Big deal, an A in math. That would be a D in any other country."



"Do you have anything positive on the Kennedys?"

TWO MORE POEMS *from* TED HUGHES

I once knew a lady from Mass.
Who was sometimes a pain in the ass.
Every damn comma
Was really high drama,
But she was quite a talented lass.



Sylvia Plath was my mate,
She and I went on a date.
She learned how to cook,
Then published a book,
And the rest is all up for debate.





"You have a nonlethal form of anthrax."



*"The food's good, and although I've asked them not to,
over and over, they always make a big fuss."*



*“Frankly, it sucks. On the other hand,
there’s nothing in it to offend China.”*



"What, no veggies?"



*"And if you can't afford a biographer one will be
appointed for you at the state's expense."*



"We can conquer somebody with a bigger castle, or we can add on."



"A Mr. Fermly to walk you."



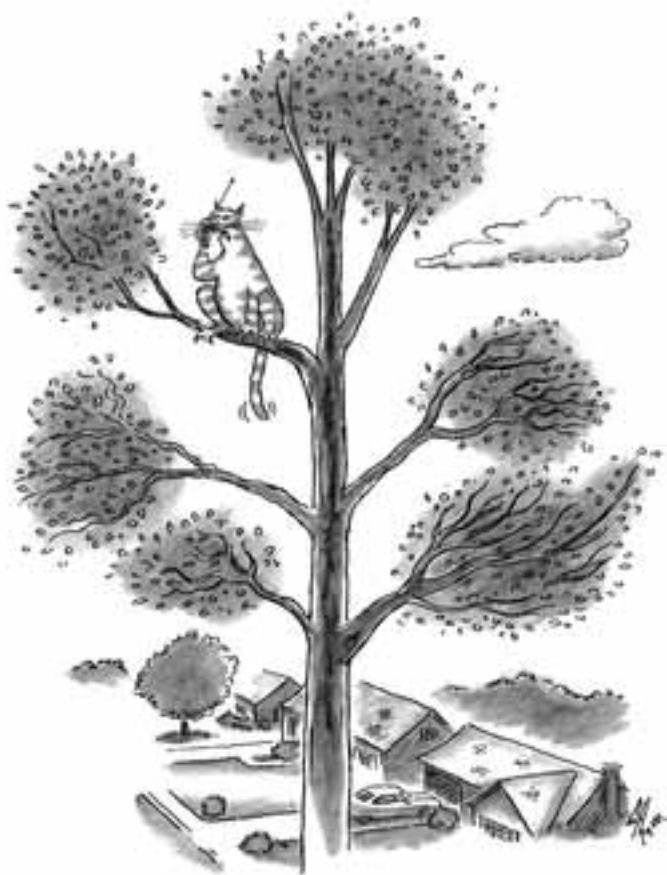
"No, thank you. One Martini and I'm out like a light."



*"Oh, I'm really sorry. I just placed three million with
some broker who called five minutes ago."*



*“And, please, sir, would it be too much to ask for
a large and devoted gay following?”*



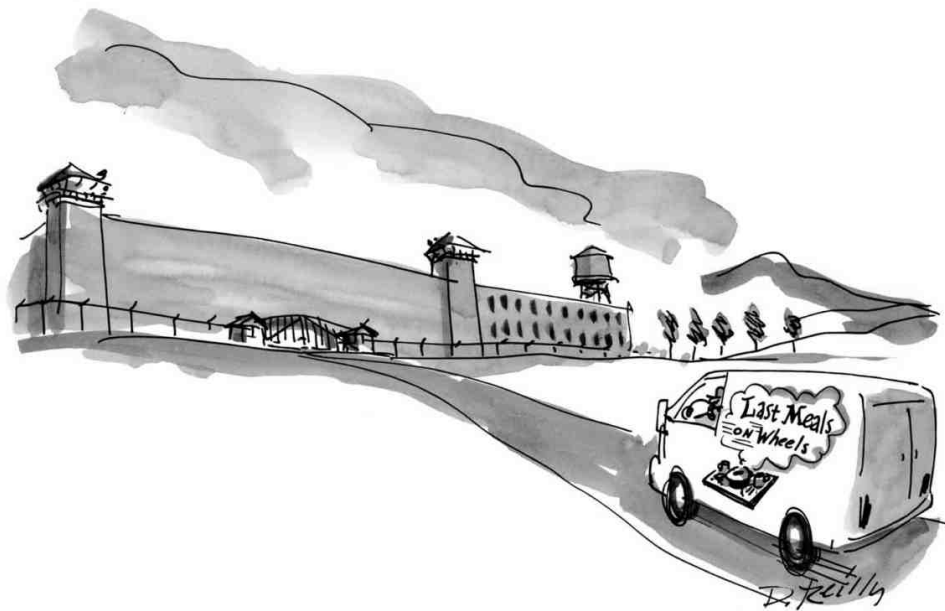
"I've done it again."



"He's great, and not too much of a threat to me."



"Do you have these in menthol?"





"Something intellectual—I'm presenting a goddam writing award."



"Someday, son, all this will belong to Bill Gates."

"'Take that,' growled the writer as the buyer for Borders slumped to the..."





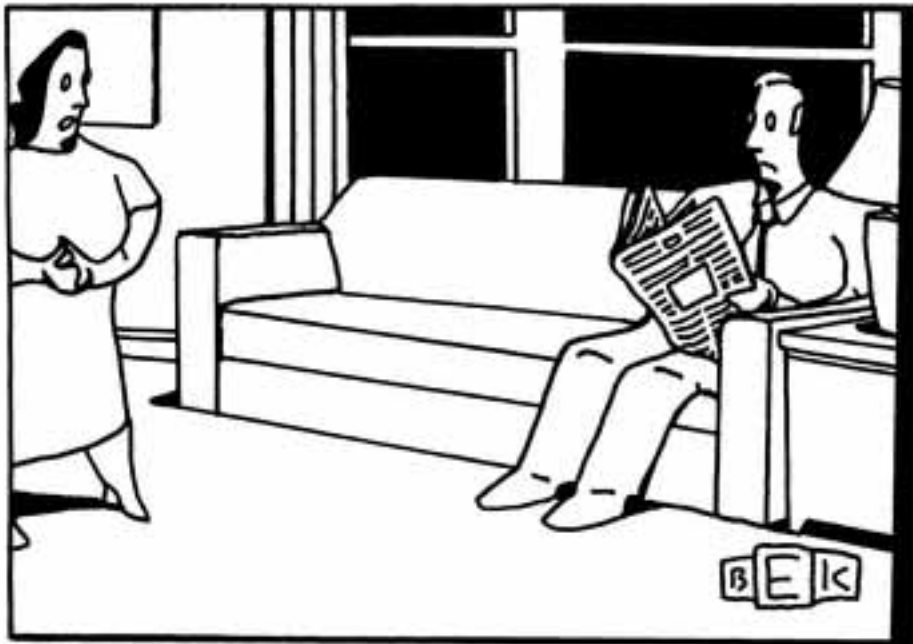
*"I do listen to that quiet, inner voice, but it just keeps talking
about Monica Lewinsky and the Asian crisis."*



*“Don’t listen to her—she’s a control freak. Now,
let me tell you what you’re gonna do.”*



“What’ll it be—Novocain or Yanni?”



"Can you spare a few seconds to minimize my problems?"



"Hey, Gramps, is 'deathbed' one word or two?"



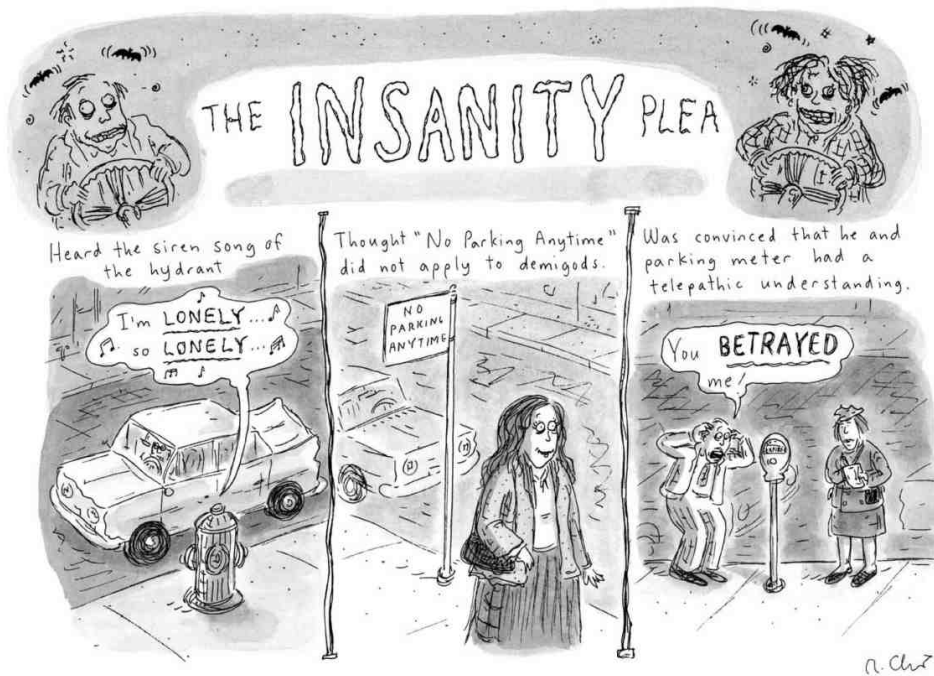
"Maybe sometime I could meet you after work."



"I'll be home for dinner—my career will be finished at five."



"She'll have a Shirley Temple, and I'll have a Shirley Temple's mother."





“As I understand it, this is part of the transition to a free-market economy.”



“Yes, Oregon’s lovely, but we’re just here for the suicide.”



“Take it easy—that one’s attached to my nipple.”



"Of course, on casual Fridays I'm the fifties Elvis."



"On the other hand, he never takes a sick day."



"Sounds like fun. Can I bring an acolyte?"



"Fur's back."



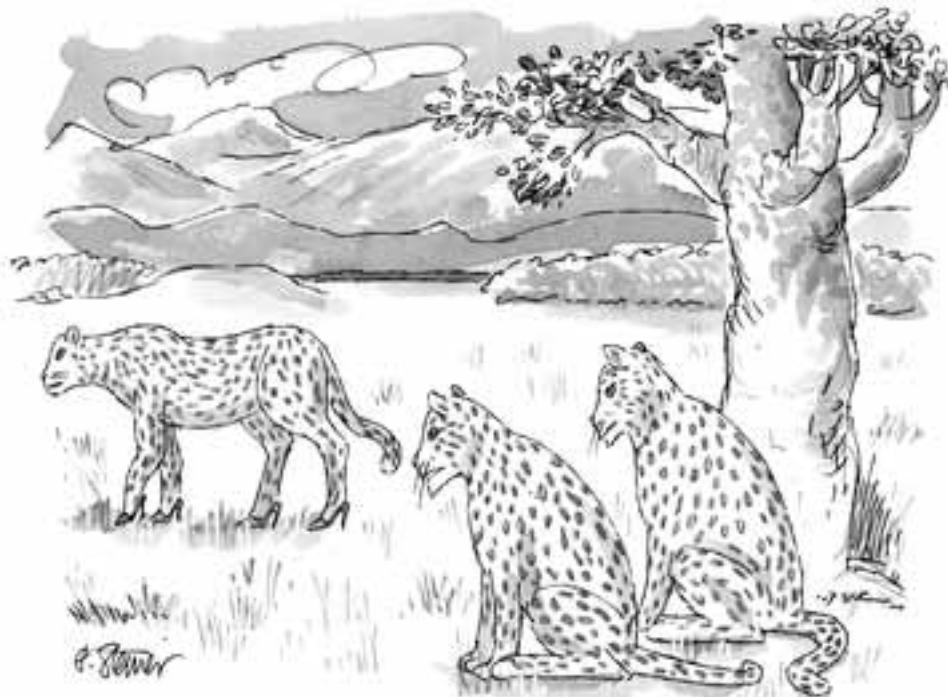
"It is thornlike in appearance, but I need to order a battery of tests."



*“Of course, ladies and gentlemen, the optimum endorsement
would be from the Crips and the Bloods.”*



"There you are!"



"I say one or the other. But leopardskin and heels is too much."



“Half empty, please.”



"Caroline Dolnick said my dress is a knockoff!"



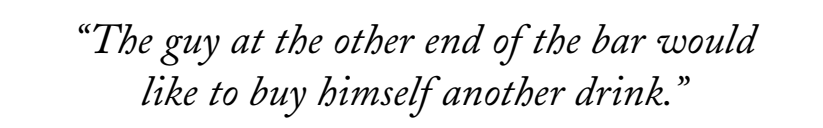
"She's had so much done she's not even biodegradable."



*“Why don’t we take a break?
Your testimony is beginning to sound rehearsed.”*

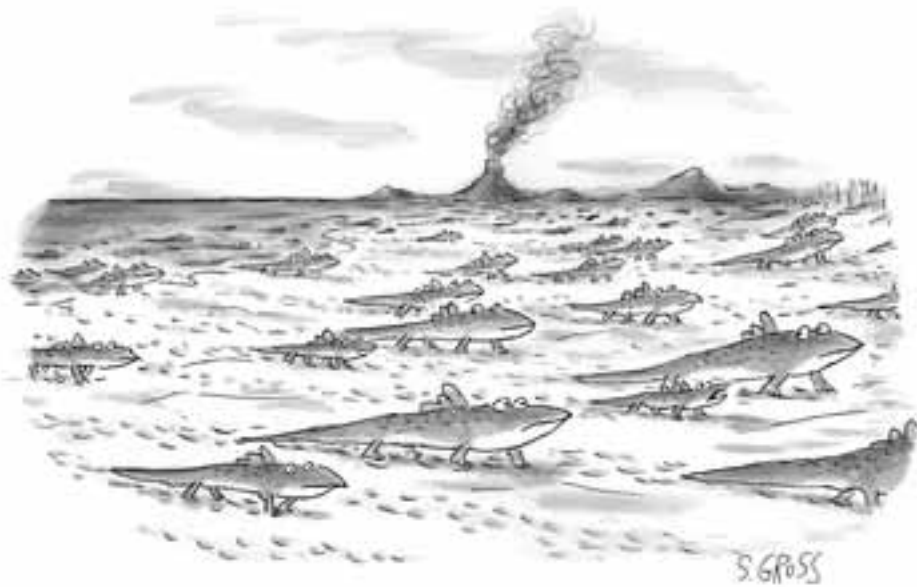


“Marsha, I can’t take the kids—I’ve got my mutual funds this weekend.”



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“Are we there yet?”



“So Zeus was like their President Bill Clinton?”





*"With the whole world in NATO,
we won't have to take any more crap from Mars."*





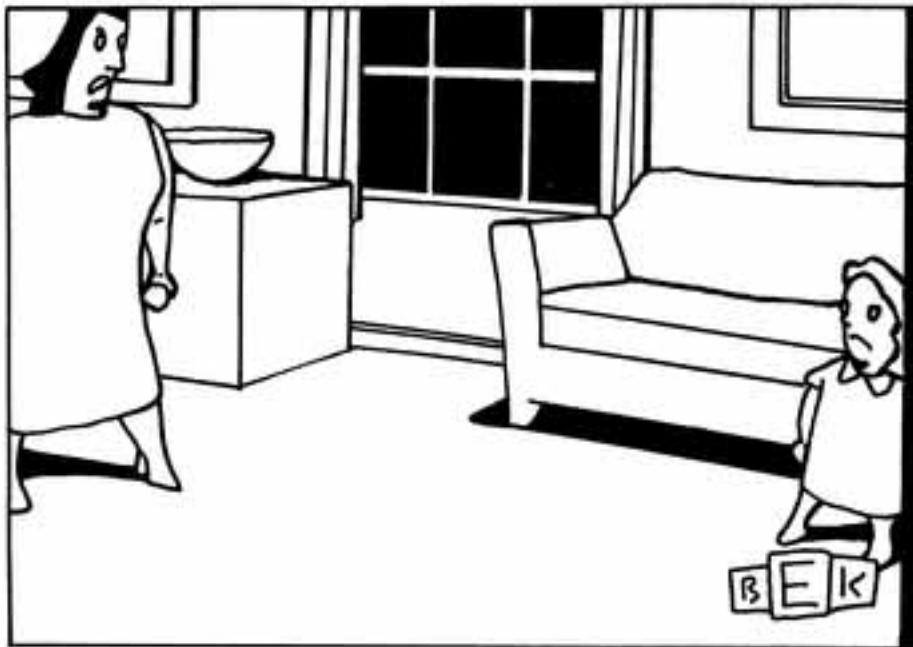
"Please have a seat. Mr. Thorndyke will be back shortly."







"And I'm telling you you've got the wrong pole."



"Someday, you'll act like you understand."



"If I were beached, could I do this?"



“Tell Mr. Yeltsin I’d be delighted. Minister of what?”



*“You think I would have sunk forty thousand clams
into this lemon if I had known they were coming out
with a nine-dollar boner pill?”*



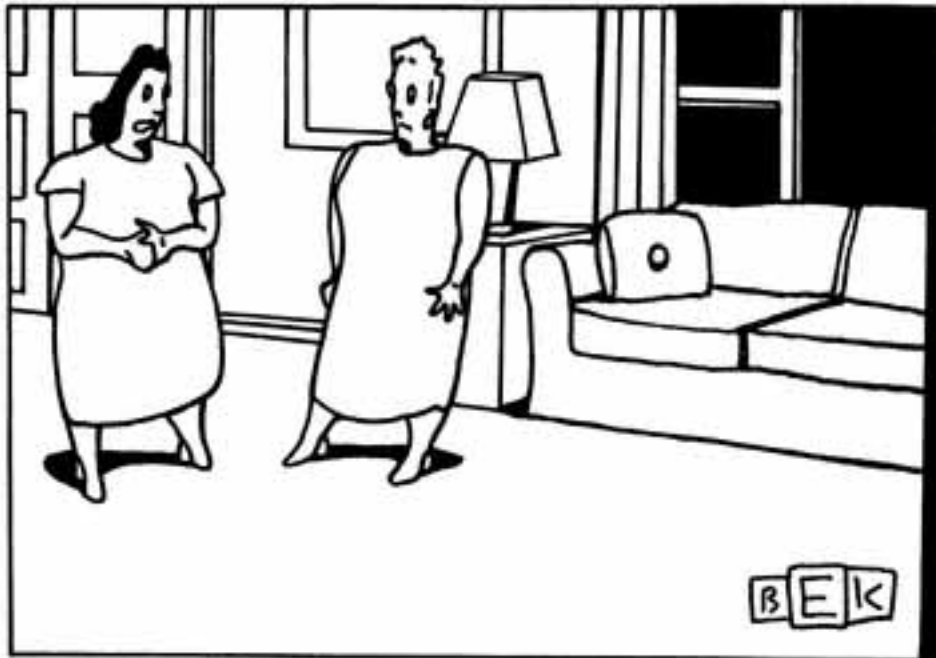
“Don’t disturb Daddy. He’s busy visualizing unparalleled success in the business world and, by extension, a better life for us all.”



"Sure, we doctors make a lot of money. But, don't forget, we spend a heck of a lot, too."



"The eggs are all hidden on the South Lawn, Mr. Starr."



"I don't care if it's a boy or a girl, just as long as I'm healthy."



“For a slight additional charge, we’ll take it back after Easter.”



"Honey, I'm home."



"We're interested in words, not deeds."



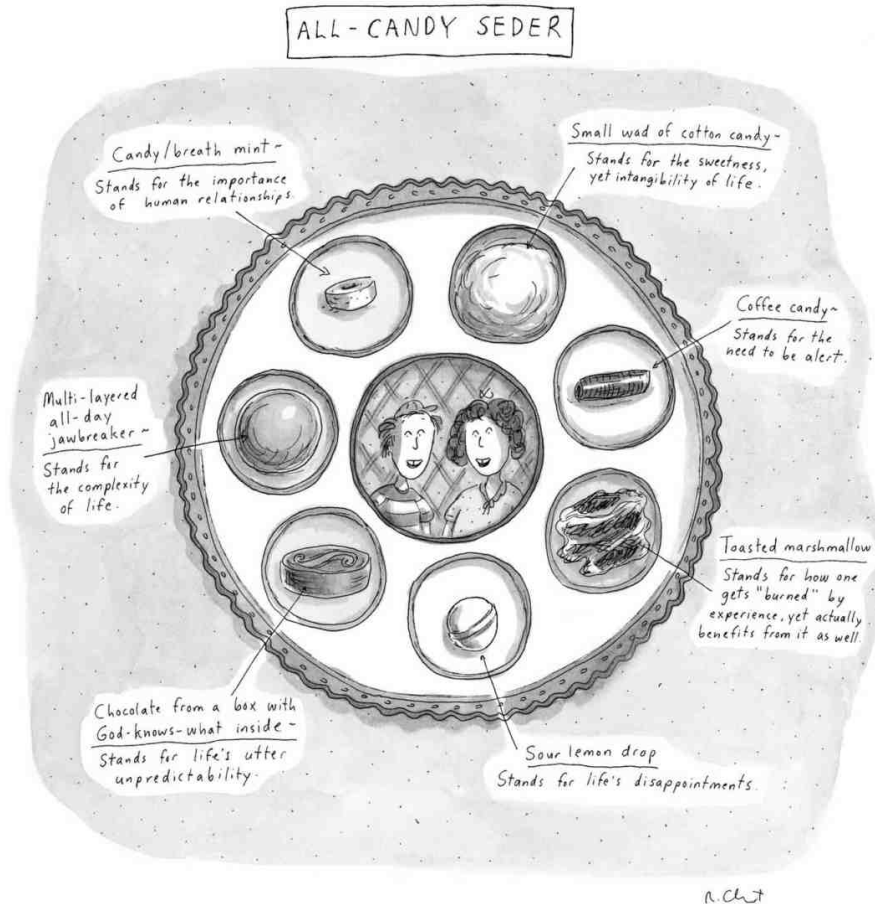
*"I bet you're glad you got out of politics to
spend more time with your family."*



“If at first you don’t succeed, subcontract it out.”

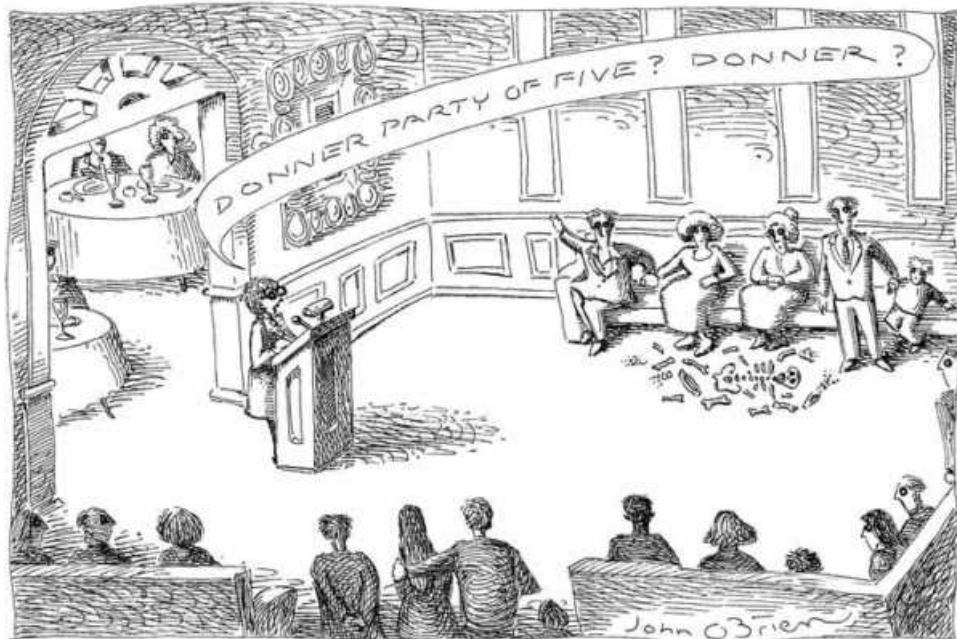


"I'm calling it 'Genesis.' It's part of a five-book contract."





"I can't decide. I'm having a brand identity crisis."





"You'll like the emphasis he places on money."



"I think it's your cap, Slim. The cows don't see you as an authority figure."

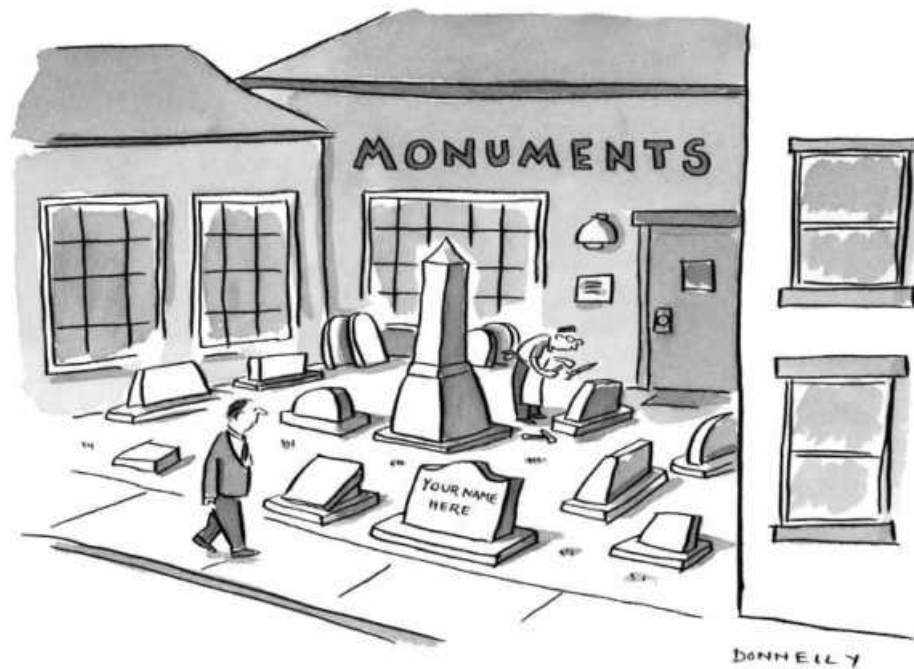


"All work and no play makes you a valued employee."



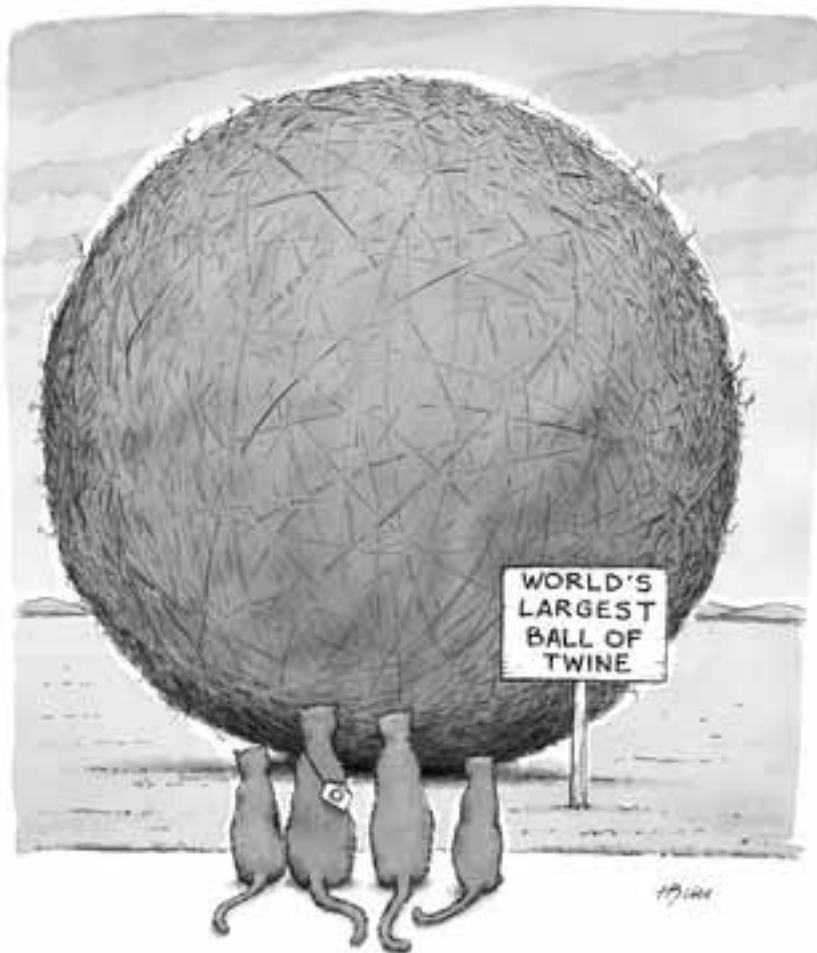
“Turning to the City Hall forecast, this brief period of contrition will be followed by increasing testiness, leading to major squalls on Monday.”







*“Don’t be too upset. If we were meant to have good sex,
we probably would have married other people.”*





*“One question: If this is the Information Age,
how come nobody knows anything?”*



"This will be separate checks."





“Next, an example of the very same procedure when done correctly.”



“One of your eyes is bugged out farther than the other one.”



"Wait, those weren't lies. That was spin!"



"That's cool. My parents never fight over me."



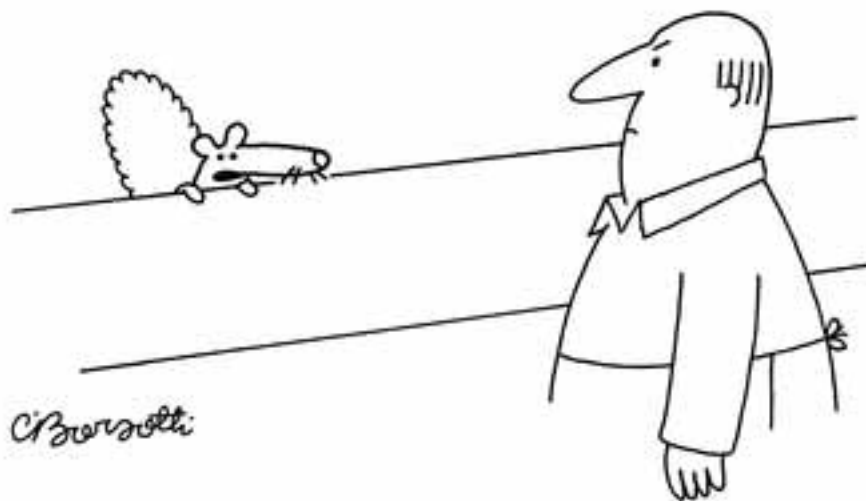
*"It's not enough to write 'Megabucks' on your return, Mr. Clacton.
You're supposed to tell us how many."*



"I know what Ally McBeal would do."



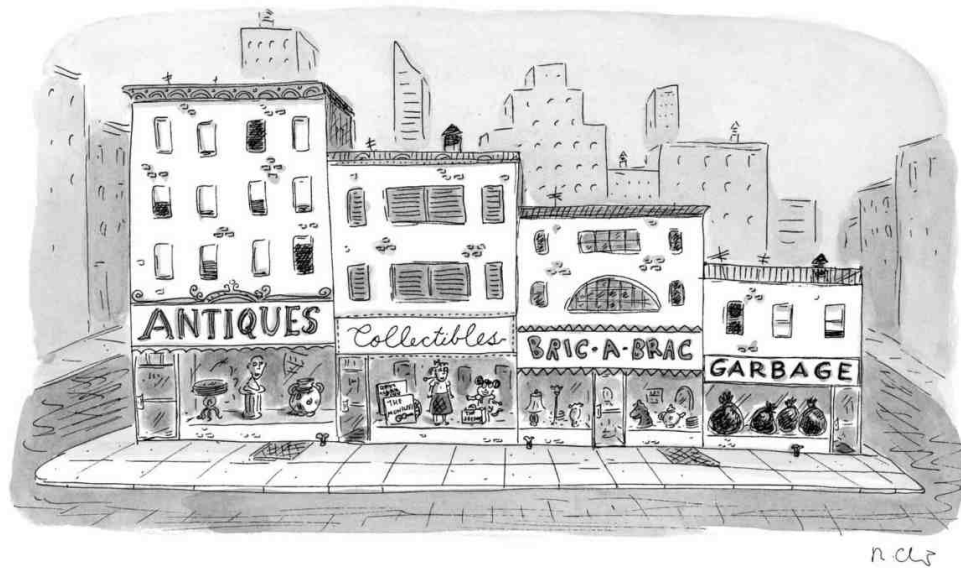
“Oh, great! Here comes the obligatory car chase.”



"Come on. If you sell beer, you must sell peanuts."



"You don't look like you filed."

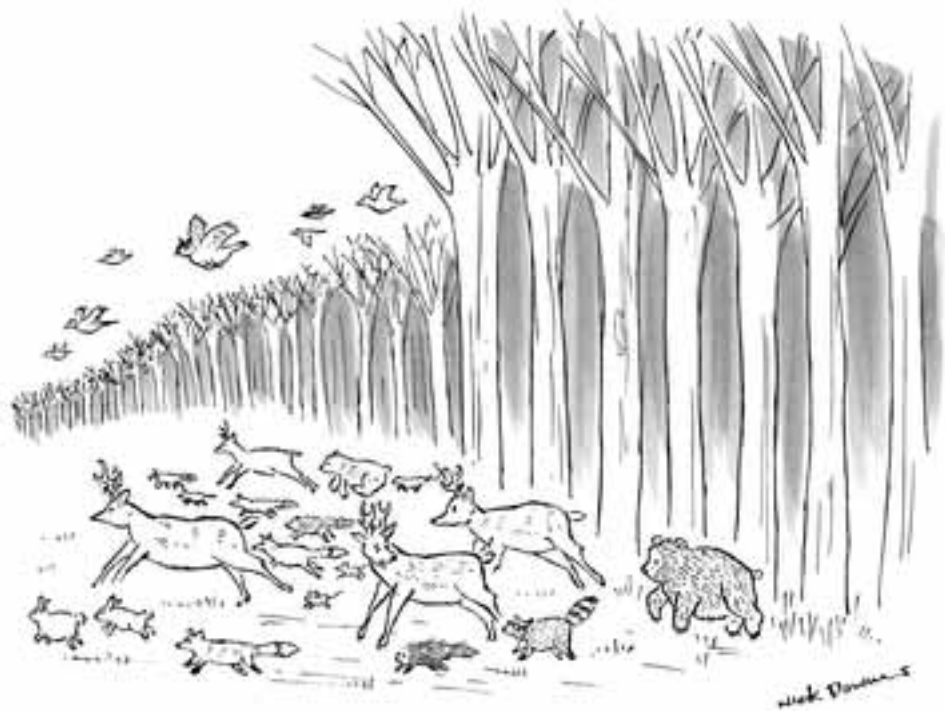




“Of course, you could try another bank, if there were any other banks.”



"Who'd like to go first?"



“What fire? We’re fleeing eco-tourists.”



“He has the rough outline of a good body but none of the details.”



"The Bluebird of Happiness is on his way. We're security."

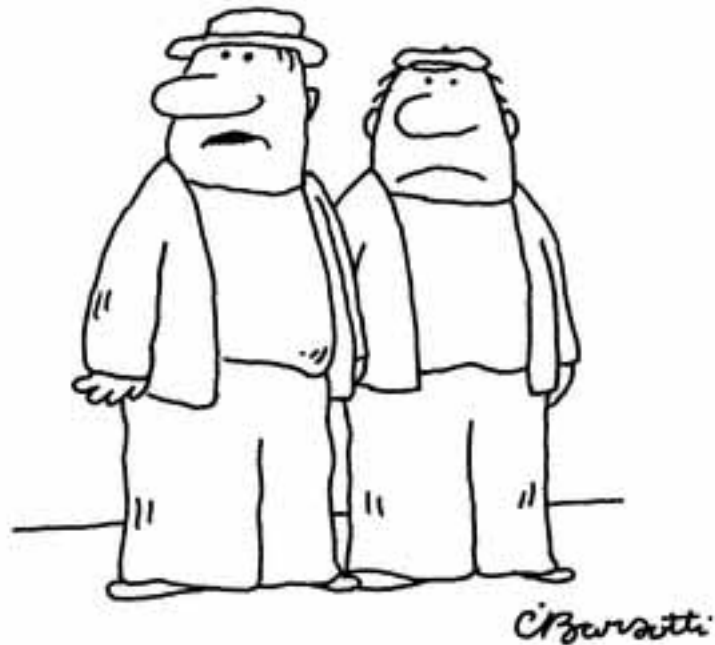




"Do you have a reservation?"



*“Nifty apartment, divine food—and I thought your
placement had some real sexual tension.”*



*"There, there it is again—the invisible hand
of the marketplace giving us the finger."*



*“When you get down to it, Dave, we’re all about people:
people helping people to kill people.”*





"The death of a businessperson is especially sad."



Le Roi Kong



"Stop whining or this is your last Take Our Daughters to Work Day."



“Night fell over the land like an L.L. Bean navy-blue summerweight one-hundred-per-cent-geese-down-filled comforter covering up an Eddie Bauer hunter-green one-hundred-per-cent-combed-cotton, machine-washable king-size fitted sheet.”



"I'm less a role model than a cautionary tale."



"Is that the corporate rate?"



“Skip the funny voices tonight—O.K., Dad?”



"I'm terribly sorry, but I forgot to bring my talking points."



“No, those people aren’t anorexic. Those people are starving.”



"It's not a completely blind date—he sent me some promotional material."



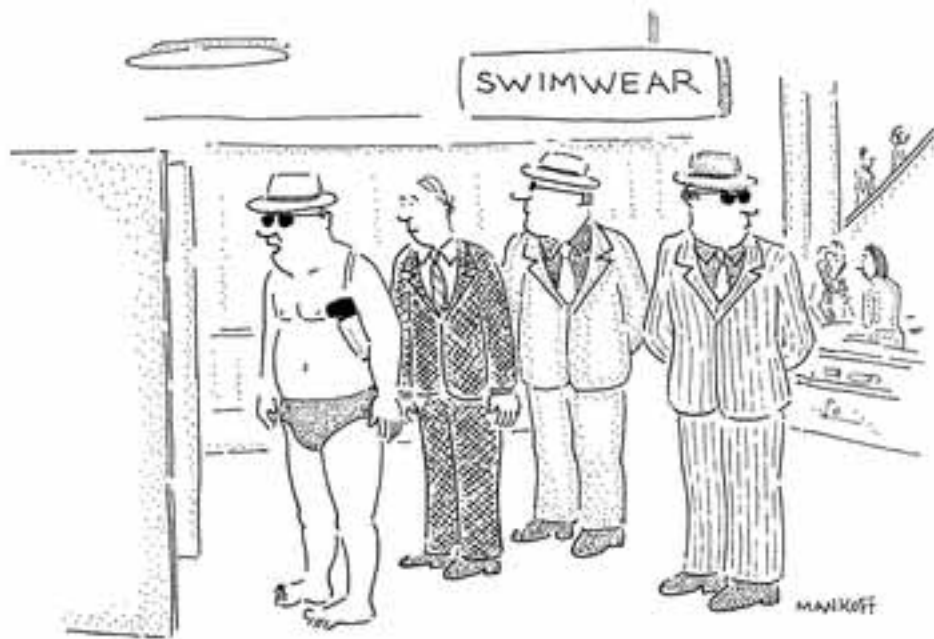




*"What the hell do you want?
You know this is my busiest day, Mother!"*



*"I thought it was just one of those bad dreams,
but apparently, honey, we have a kid."*



"You sure this is bulletproof?"



*"Dear Mom and Dad: Just a quick note
to thank you for the very lovely desk set."*



"I already know he's gone—it's been on the Internet."



"Seen my gumshoes, doll?"



"You're going to do time, but I'm trying to get it in dog years."



*"They're not rich-rich, but they're rich enough so that
we wouldn't feel uncomfortable around them."*



*"As your attorney, Miss Marlow,
may I say that you give good deposition."*

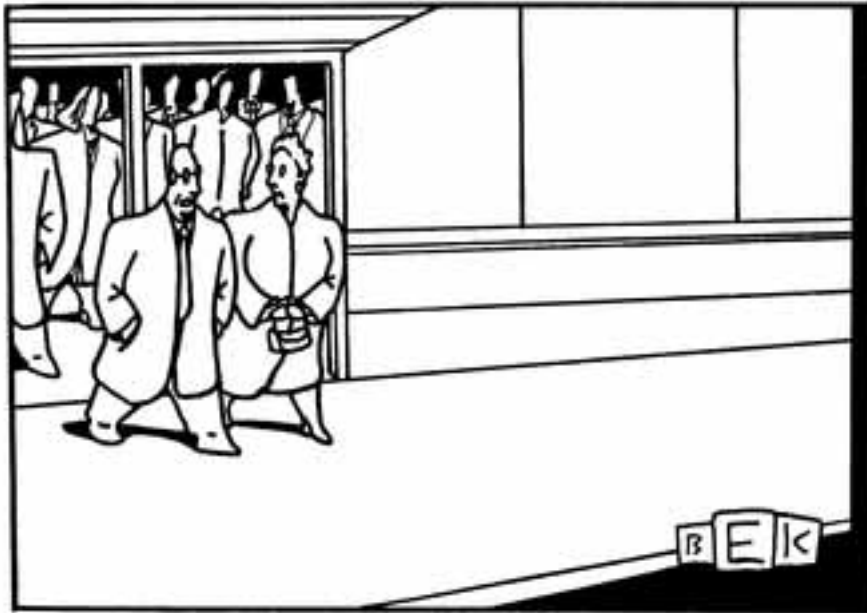


"Tag! Your salary's frozen."

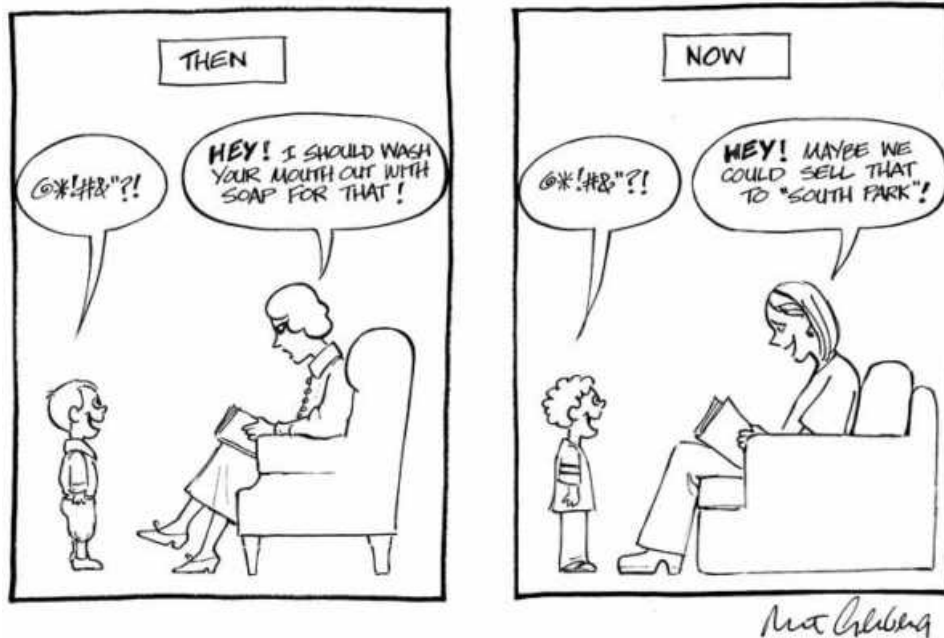




"So how many temps do you need?"



*"I've seen it performed many times, but I can't remember
ever sleeping through it so peacefully."*







“Hey, big guy. Can I buy you a pair of underpants?”



*“Am I a bad person if I don’t care
what happens to Yankee Stadium?”*



"Bear in mind that we just bought string bikinis."





"You're kidding. I thought it was Friday."



"I think he's finally asleep."



*“But that’s the beauty of the game. At this very moment,
your absurd vicarious defeat is being perfectly counterbalanced
by some opposing fan’s absurd vicarious triumph.”*



"I keep my core beliefs written on my palm for easy reference."



*"There'll be a little wait—would
you like to have a drink at the bar?"*



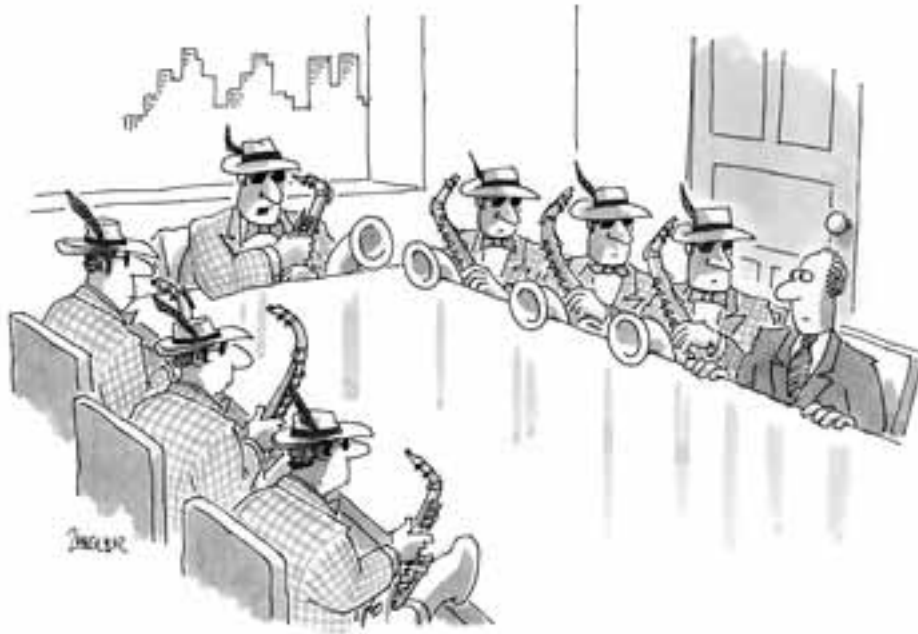
*"As for immigration, I say admit
anyone who arrives on the Concorde."*



*"The sound of violins, the night, the wine,
the ambience—but most of all, Louise, you!"*



*"He didn't have any last words. He just sang
the national anthem and then went blank."*



“Damn it, Hopkins, didn’t you get yesterday’s memo?”



"I'm a lawyer, so I'll try the torte."



"I'm not really a journalist. I just play one on the evening news."



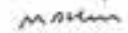
"No heroic measures."



“And, in a move sure to attract the attention of regulators, the private sector made a bid to acquire the public sector.”







*“O.K., so I dig a hole and put the bone in the hole.
But what’s my motivation for burying it?”*



"The planet is all wobbly this morning."



“Have ye seen a whale that matches this swatch?”



"I thought they were cracking down on jaywalking."



"This is a nice restaurant. Turn your cap around."

USEFUL DEGREES

Bachelor of Waitressing (B.W.)



Bachelor of Grocery Arts (B.G.A.)



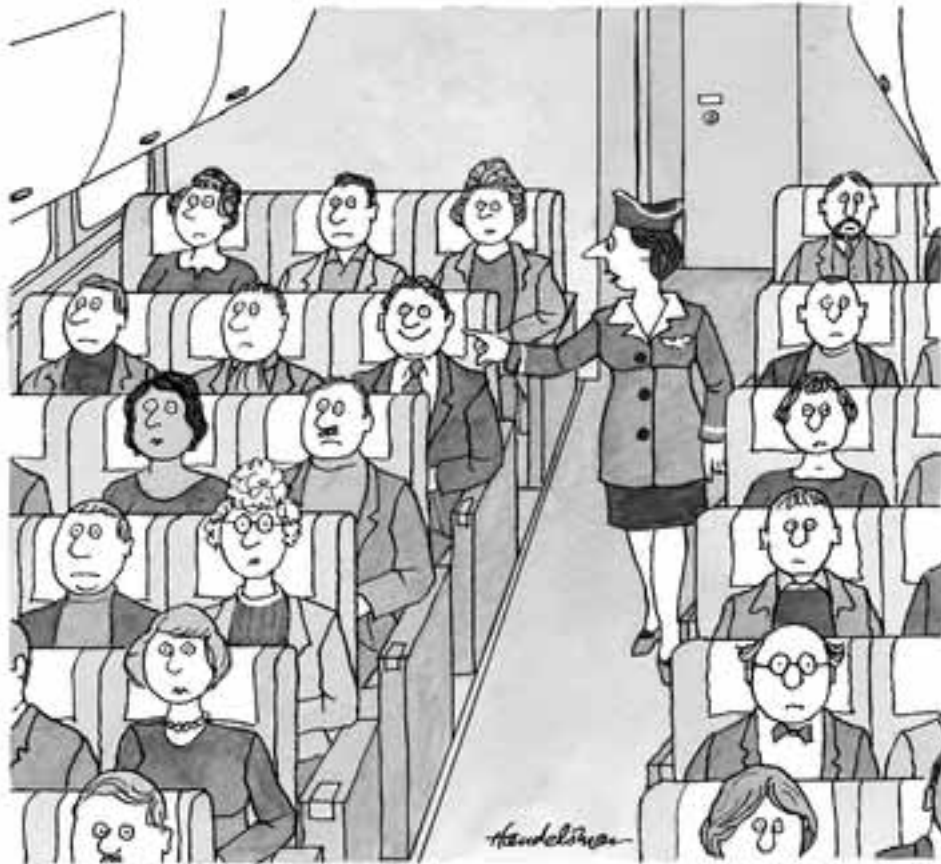
Bachelor of Clothing-Display Science (B.C.D.S.)



Bachelor of Lotto (B.L.)



R. Chast



"This is coach class. Let's lose the smile."





"Oh, and c.c. the Devil."



“Got some bad news for you, Larry.”



“Would you mind stepping out of the sixties, please?”



"It's a really cool game! You're Bill Gates, and you have to fight off the evil agents of the Justice Department before they destroy your planet."



*“Jesus Christ! Do you realize that now
I actually am fifty when you’re eighty?”*



"Cell phones! Get yer cell phones here! Cell phones!"



“Anything from the organ cart today, Mr. Harrelson?”



"I got an A for not smoking."



*"I'd like to stall this project into the ground—
hand it over to one of our action committees."*



*“If you would care to take a seat, our waiter,
Paul, will be with you momentarily.”*



*"Well, if it isn't Douglas Whitson of 'I promise
I'll get right back to you' fame."*



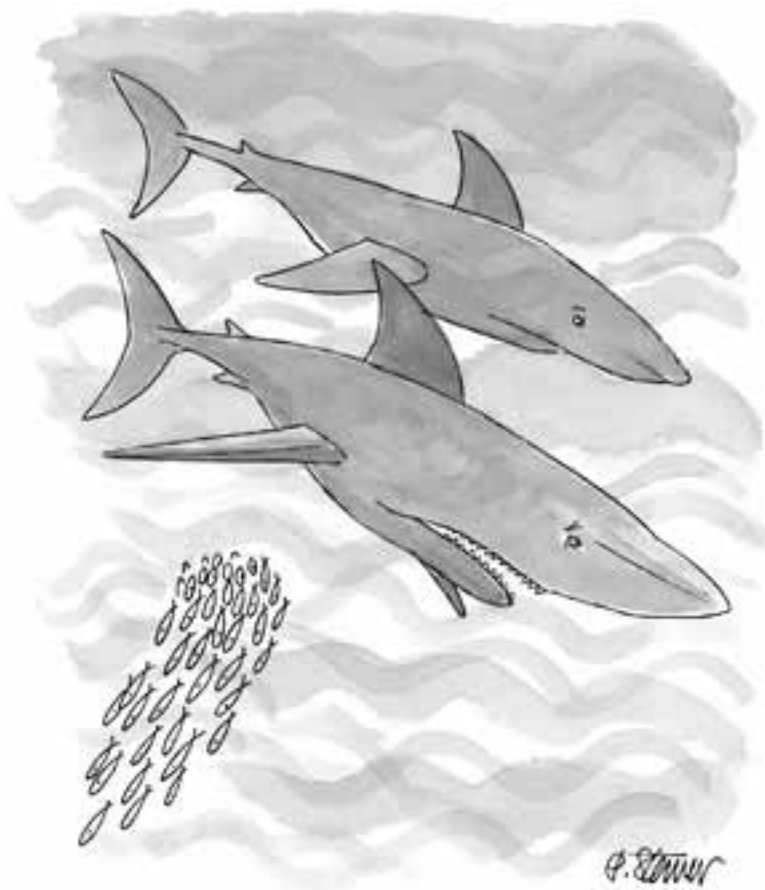


"I'm starting to get concerned about global warming."





"This symposium has gotten completely out of hand!"



"It was terrible. It was like a media frenzy."



*"The summer people are coming!
The summer people are coming!"*



*"Stilton's the king, Camembert and chèvre are landed gentry,
and cheddars are the serfs, you know."*



"I also do suicides."



*“All I’m saying is now is the time to develop
the technology to deflect an asteroid.”*



*“Thank you, Mr. Mulvaney, but what
we’re really looking for is someone with talent.”*







“Frankly, we didn’t think we had another divorce left in us.”



“You understand I have to ask. You’re not some sort of skinhead, are you?”





*"Nobody 'leaked' your transgressions, Mister.
We know everything up here."*



"This is Harold. My core holding."



"I don't think so."



"He's pretty depressed—Ginger Spice was his favorite."



"You don't whisper anymore."



"And now here's Jerome with an overview."

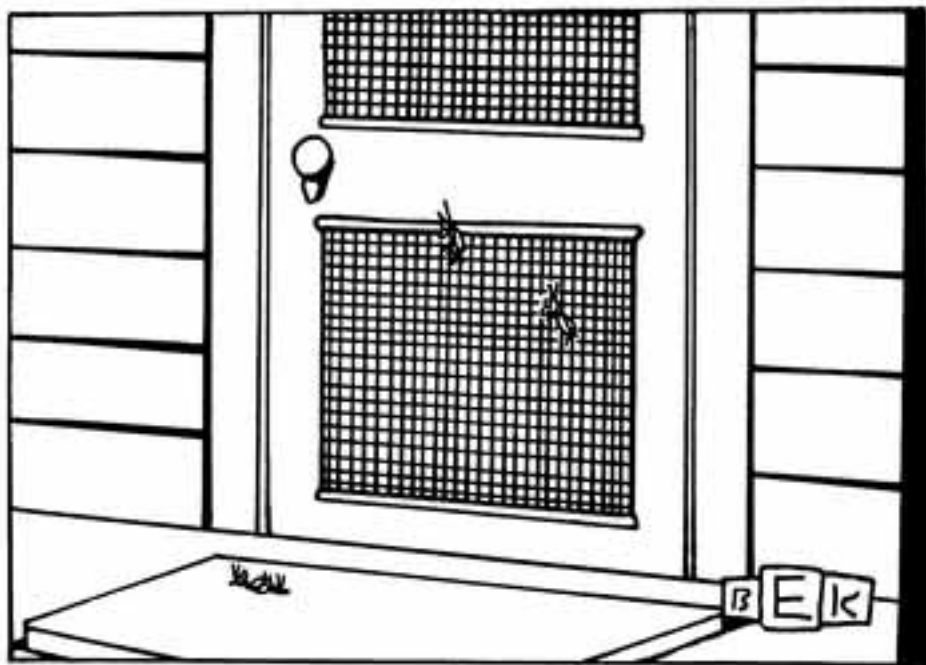


“Good news, honey! Dr. Bingham couldn’t detect any impotence.”

COUNTRY MOUSE AND CITY MOUSE
MEET
SUBURB MOUSE







"He will be greatly missed, both on and off the screen."



"And try not to spill Daddy's Martini, Caleb."



"Thanks, Mom. Thanks, Kevin. I had a very nice time."





*"Never forget, Bobby, how many brave men fought
and died so that we might have a free market."*



"Not bad, fellas. Let's do one more take, with more emphasis on tone, harmony, melody, rhythm, composition, lyrics, musicianship, tempo, and originality."



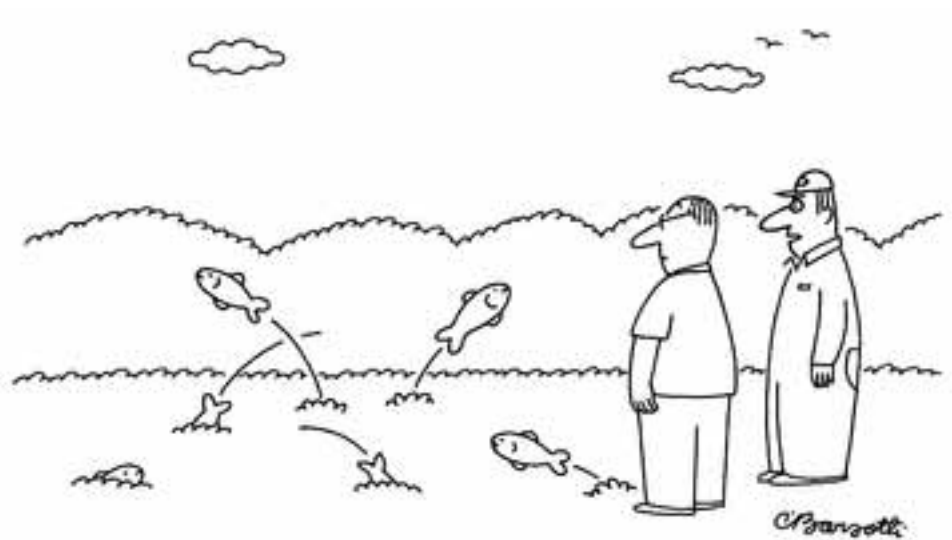
"No one ever went broke making a profit."



"I've decided to replace the sod floor with tile."



"Of course, it's a highly experimental procedure, but we're trying out new techniques from other disciplines all the time."



"Lawn fish. They're hell to get rid of."



“What would you recommend to hold a seven-year-old girl’s attention in a car from East Seventy-eighth Street to Bridgehampton?”



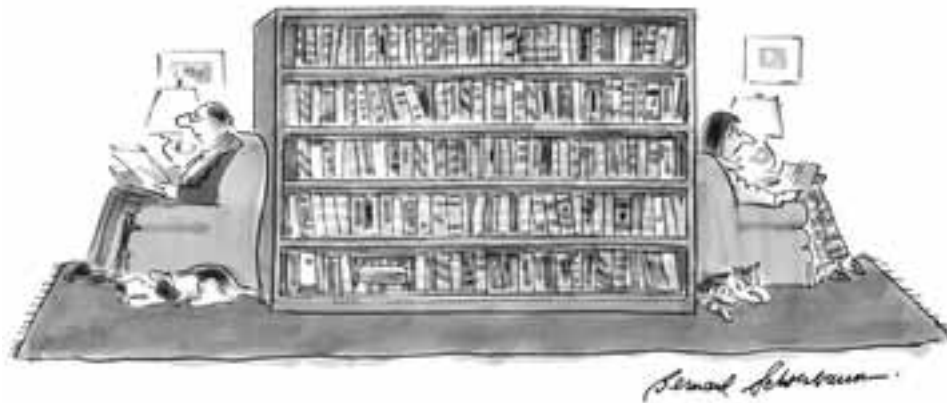
*"I understand the Ten Commandments. But what is this
Second Amendment he keeps going on about?"*



*"Sometimes you just option it because your gut tells you
this is a book that has to be butchered."*









*"Stop asking so many questions, or it's right
back to Books on Tape for you."*



"The networks are losing share and you sit there reading?"



"I don't have a title yet, or even a subject. All I have is the price: twenty-three ninety-five in hardcover."





*“Why can’t you be more like little Hester Prynne?
She’s getting straight A’s.”*



“Less roman, more clef.”





"Start with a Spanish doubloon. Those are always good."



"I'm sorry, sir, but Dostoyevsky is not considered summer reading. I'll have to ask you to come with me."



*"This has merit, but could you go back through
and add more 'like's and 'you know's?"*



NANCY DREW MYSTERIES

THE LATER YEARS



n.w



"I'm overcompensated, but I'm not overcompensated enough."



"Pssst! Hot dog?"



"Sweetheart, I don't want anyone to make you unhappy except me."





"The Bible . . . that would be under self-help."



"Are we there yet?"



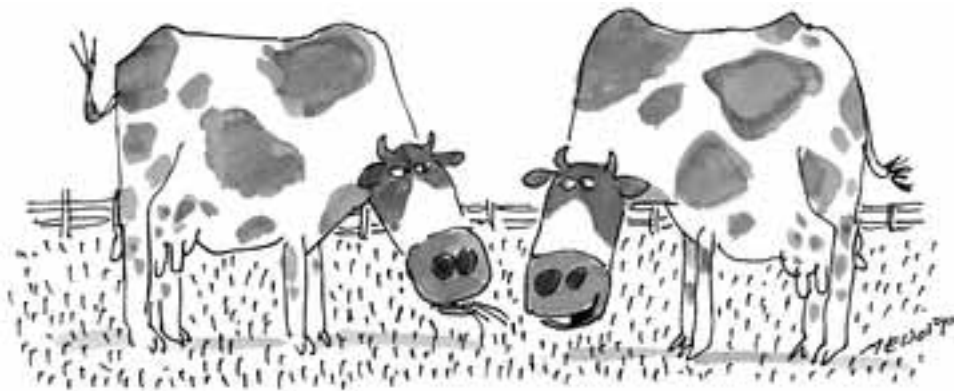
"Oh, how very French."



"Valerie, I think we should increase our S.P.F."



"We'll widen the clogged artery by inserting a balloon."



"Dynamite grass!"



*“Miss Keenan, I don’t seem to be getting any pulse today.
Perhaps you should alert legal.”*



"I sense fear."



And Cain rose up against Abel
and violated his civil rights.

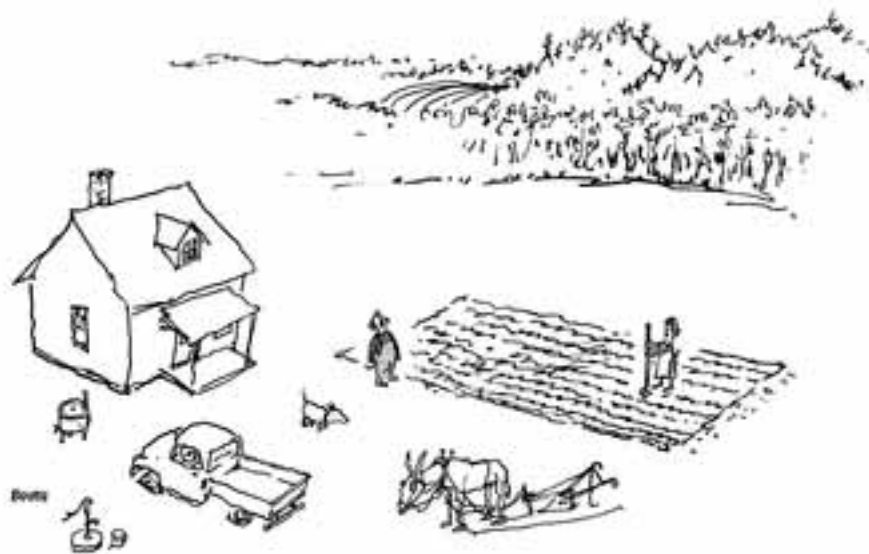


"No, thanks. I'm still hoping for a trip to the moon on gossamer wings."





"Bill wanted to be buried in the garden."



“’Nother load of tobacco money headin’ north, Ma.”

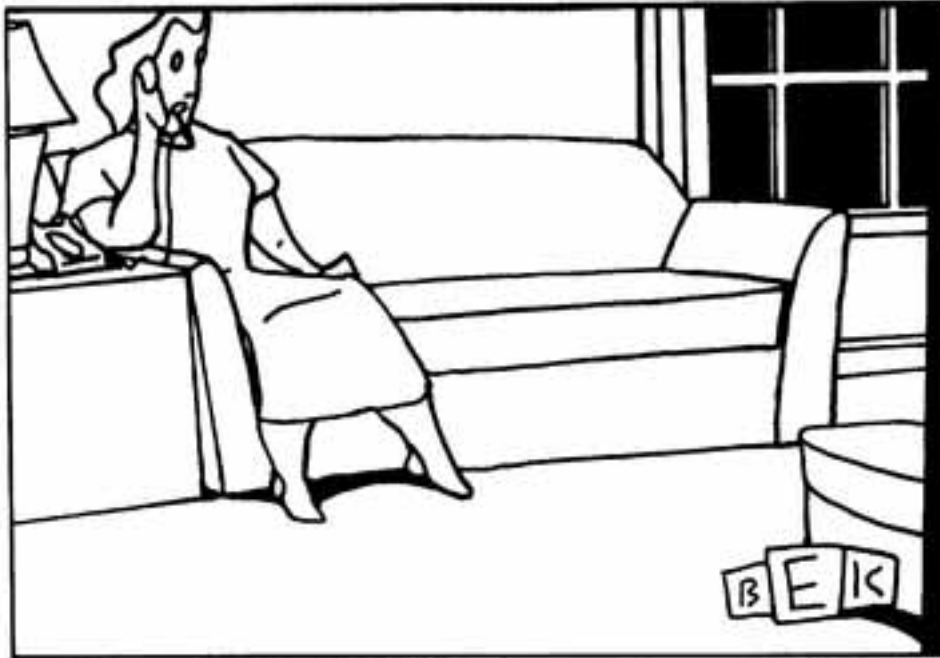
“Yep.”



“Barking at the mailman doesn’t make you a media watchdog.”



"My client has nothing to leak at this time."



"I realize that each day is a gift. Now it's just a matter of figuring out how to exchange fourteen thousand six hundred of them."







"Scientists confirmed today that everything we know about the structure of the universe is wronged-y-wrong-wrong."



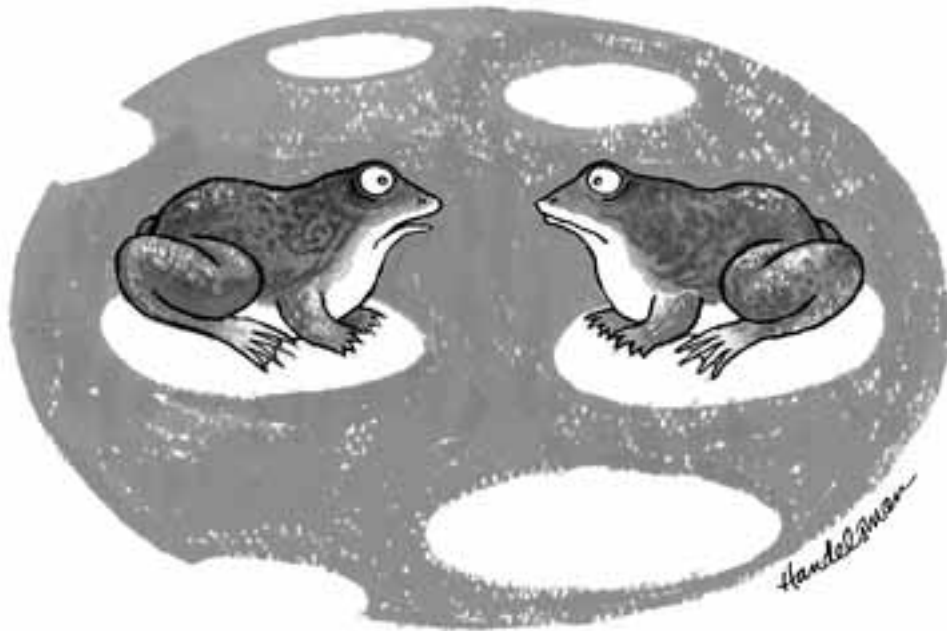
*"Steve tells me that when he was in Beijing he discovered
a rather good little Chinese restaurant."*



“The economy’s never been better. Here’s another potato!”



"I dislike you both the same."

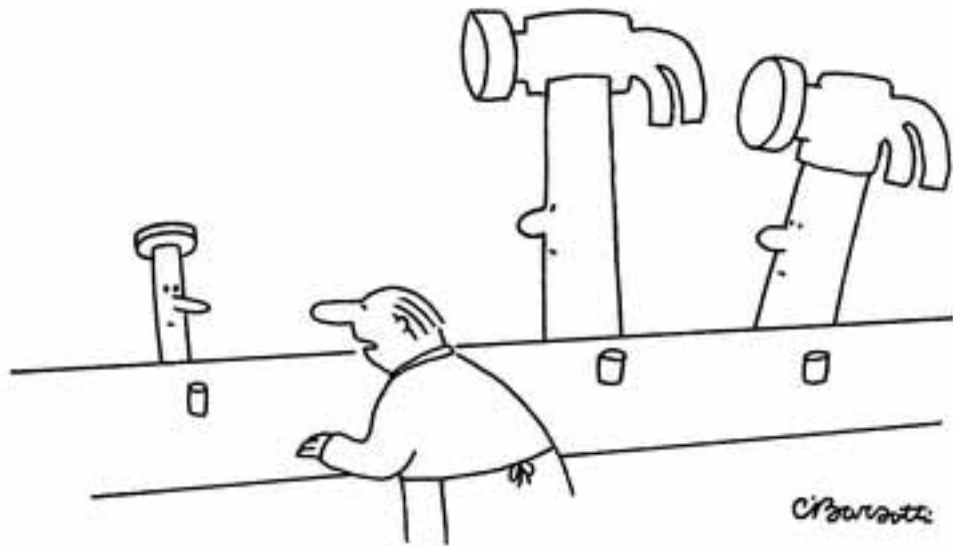


“So they hold this conference to figure out why we’re becoming extinct, and guess what they have for dinner.”



"Sorry, it's not the governor, but you still have about three minutes to take advantage of your pre-approved status on an eight-point-four-per-cent-A.P.R. platinum card."





"Take my advice, pal. Drink up and get out of here."



*“One thing we do share with you—
we both live on capital accumulated by others.”*



*"You can unfasten your seatbelt now, Howard,
and move about the cabin at will."*



“There’s a time to accumulate and a time to accumulate more.”



"I see from your résumé that you enjoy attending the occasional soccer match."





"Sure, you're disappointed—but, hey, it's not like it's the end of the world."





"I think it would be wise to establish a legal-defense fund for my kids while they're still young."



"Sir, you've been downgraded to the baggage compartment."



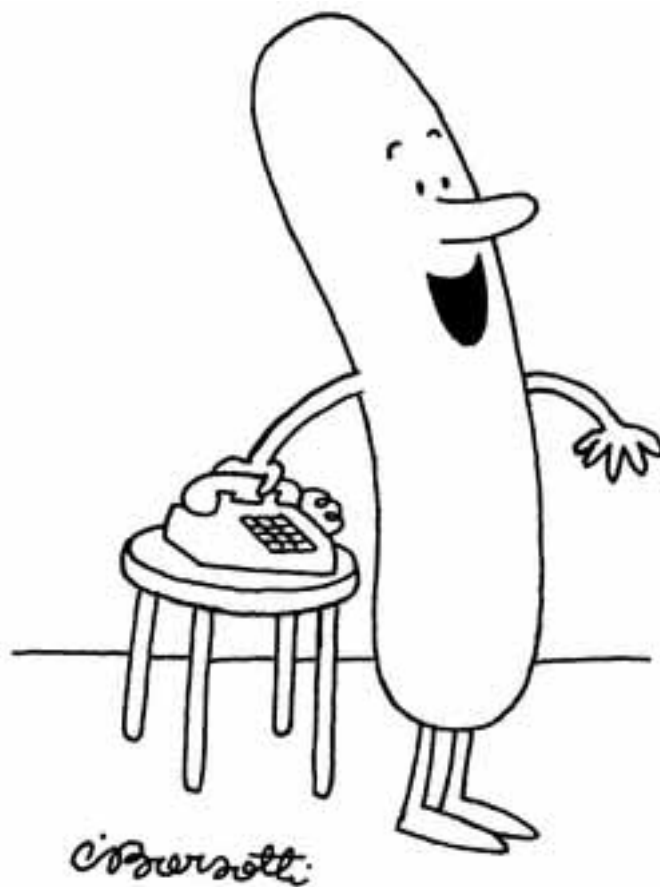
"We rarely watch television. Most of our free time is devoted to sex."



"How was my day? Advancing issues led declines."



"I don't need time to think it over, Phillip—the answer is yes, I'll settle out of court with you."



"Hey, everybody, we're invited to a cookout!"



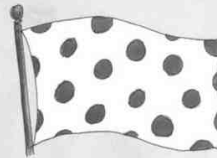


"What's not disgusting?"

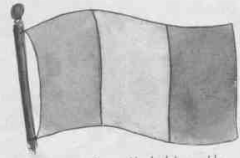
FLAGS IN SEARCH OF NATIONS



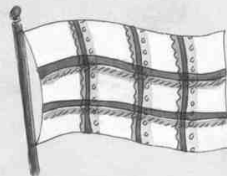
Just right for the country that would prefer a softer, more pastel palette.



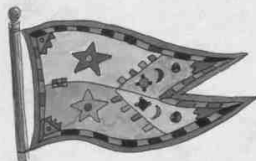
The right choice for the republic that does not mind if the rest of the world secretly laughs at its flag.



If you're a nation that likes the stripe idea but hates black, yellow, green, blue, red, and white, then perhaps this is what you're looking for.



You'd be surprised at just how terrific this looks on a flagpole. Try it.



Are you a newly emergent equatorial region? Or would you just like to look like one? Well, here's your chance.



Elegant, chic, understated. The perfect flag for the dominion with impeccable taste.

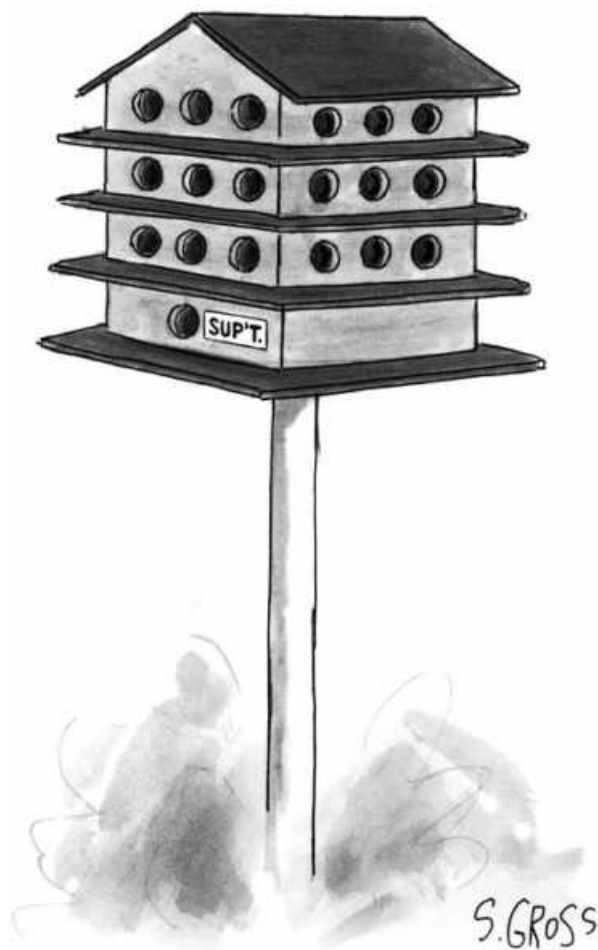
R. Chast



"When did we go from being edgy to being cranky?"



"This needs your immediate attention."



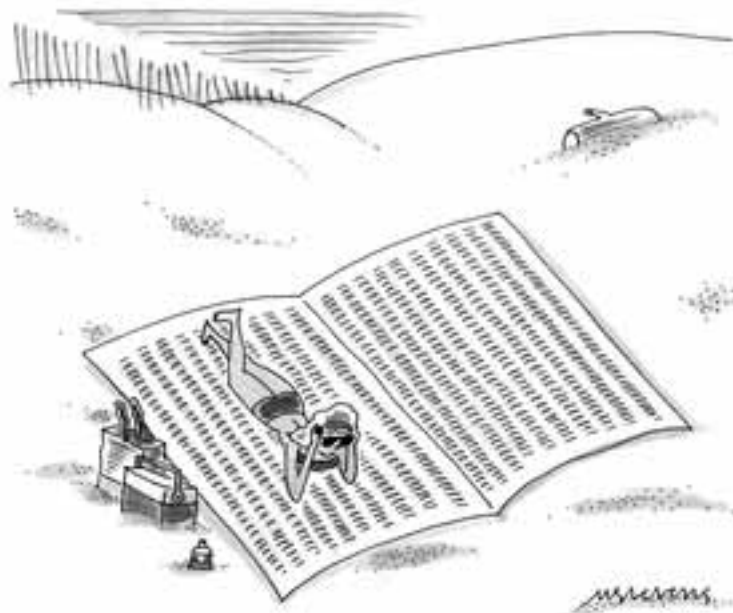


"Well, I, for one, am grateful for the beefed-up police presence."



*"I'd just like to know why, if you trust me so much,
you've named your daughter to pull your plug."*





"GONE WITH THE WIND": THE BEACH BLANKET



"I'm sorry, but nine Greek islands in seven days is just too much."



“Hi. This is Ed, over at the I.R.S., just checking to see how you’re feeling after your audit.”



*“Oops! I just deleted all your files.
Can you repeat everything you’ve ever told me?”*





“Parks and Wildlife called—I thought you should know.”



"I'm sorry, Mr. Abbot is away from his desk."



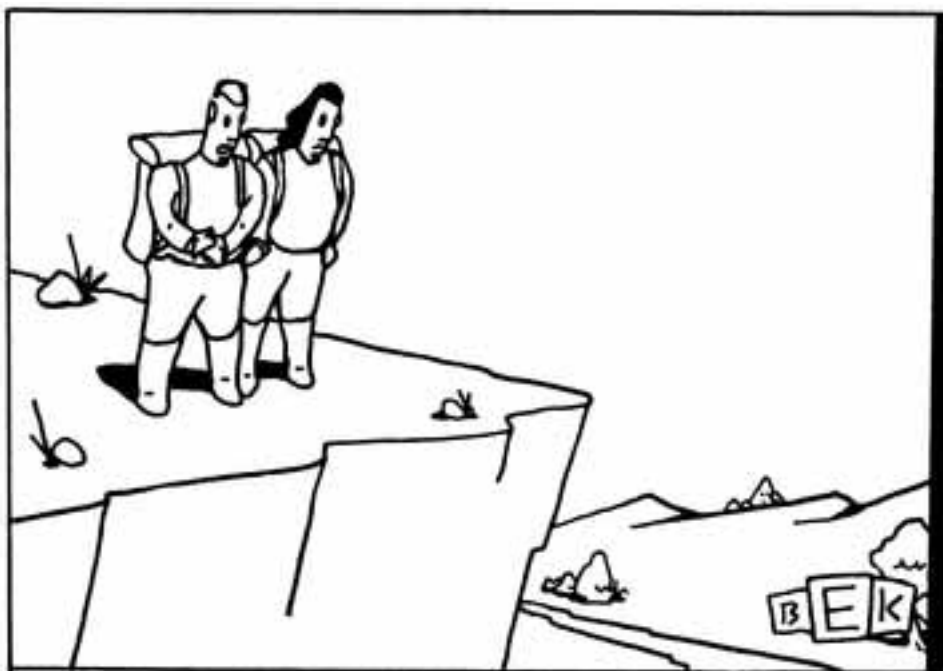
“Andy may be out next weekend, if he gets down to his beach weight.”



"I'm afraid this is auf Wiedersehen, Padre. Estelle and I are setting up our own little religion."



"First of all, this meeting never happened."



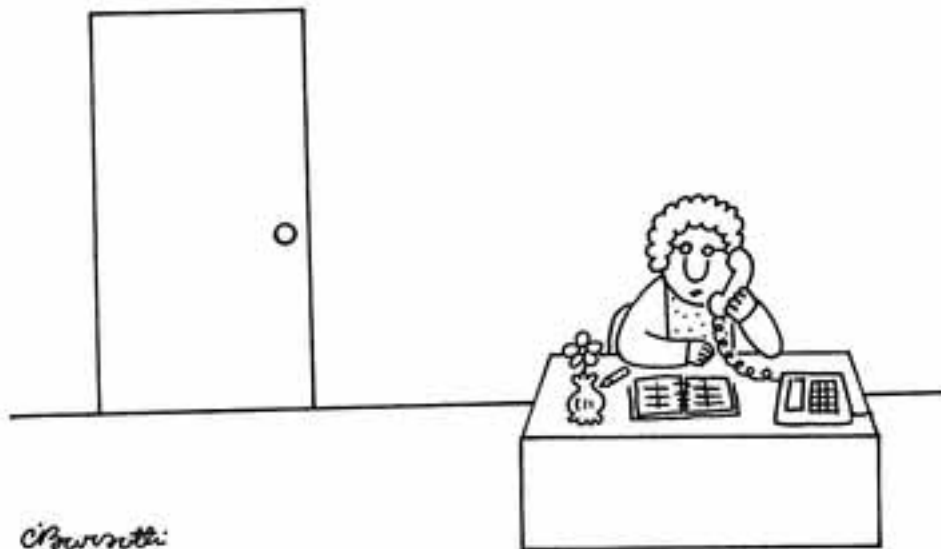
"It makes me realize how small you are."



"I think you should be aware that the chef is a summer intern."



"True, I can't take it with me, but I can take the access codes to it."



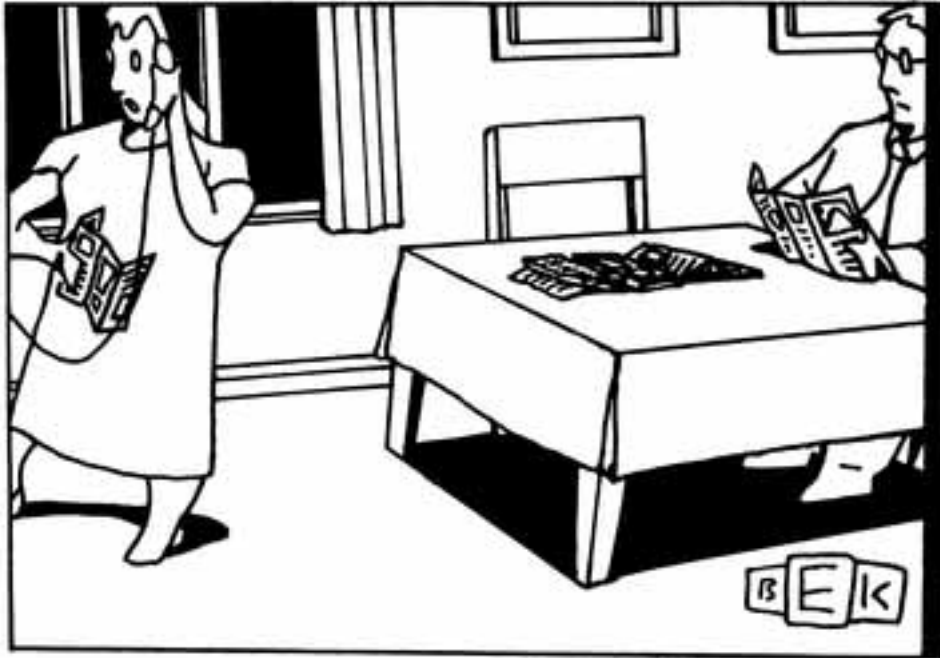
C. Barsotti

"Would you like a little phone sex while you hold?"



"Would you mind?"





"We have all the brochures, but we can't decide if we want to die on Mt. Everest or Mt. McKinley."



“Your daughter called—you promised to play phone tag with her today.”



"Dad, can I borrow your password tonight?"



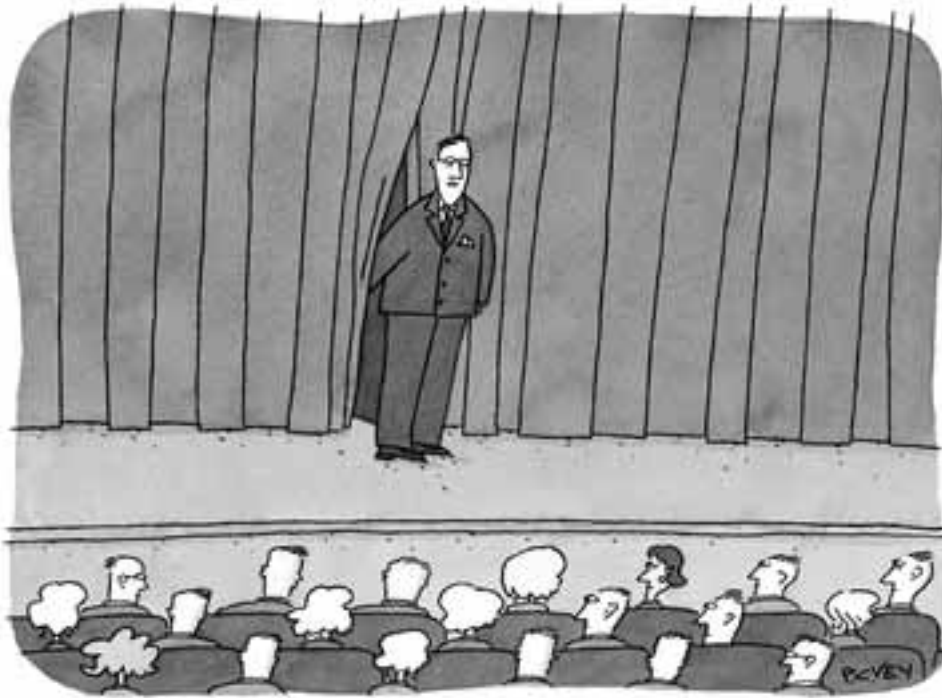
"Go ahead, finish your beer."



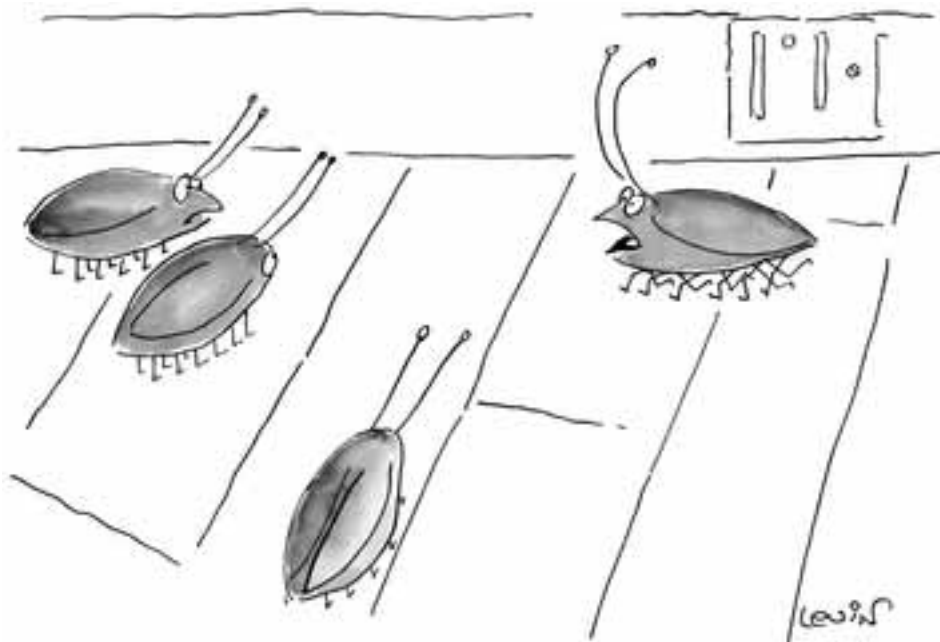
*"It's not enough that I succeed.
My friends must also be drawn and quartered."*



*“Could you lend me a hand dragging my husband
out of shallow water and into the open sea?”*



"Tonight the part normally played by the audience will be played by actors playing the part of the audience."



“Run for your lives! The Lord of the Dance is coming.”



"We never close, do we, Howard?"



*"Mike, I have to level with you. I said I liked
Disney World, but actually I didn't."*



“Can I call you back? I’ve just been joined by a law-enforcement official.”



“On the other hand, it may bring in more visitors.”

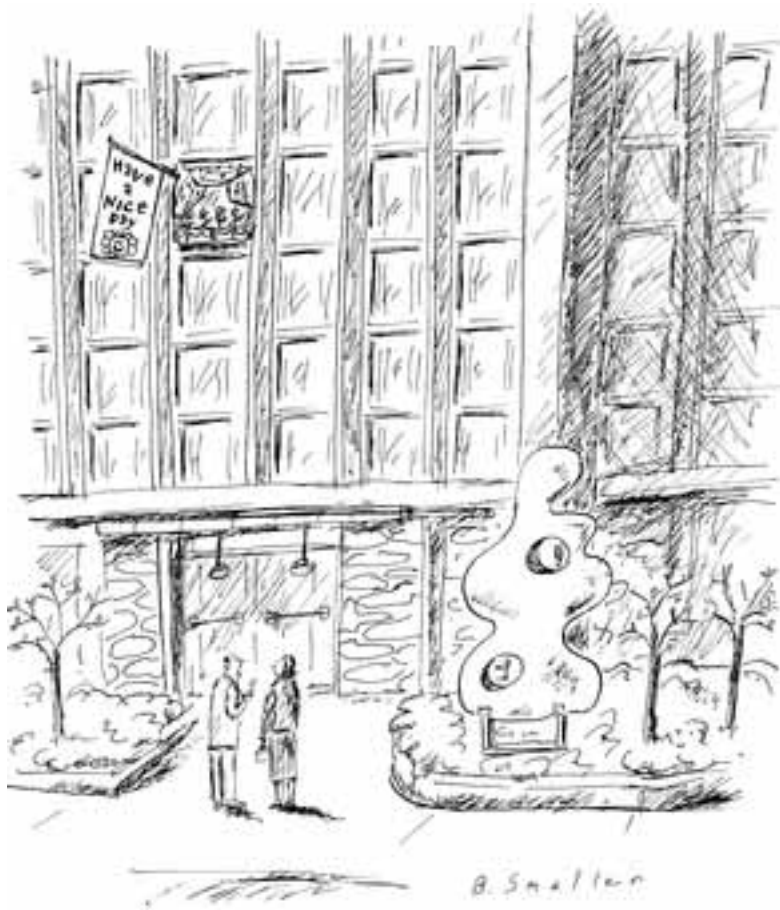


"I don't know. It doesn't do anything for my little general—does it do anything for your little general?"



"This is another guy I blew away—pictured, of course, in happier times."





"The board is going to have to talk to 5-G again."



"As I said earlier, Michelle, I won't answer questions about economic or foreign policy. I'm here to talk about my sexual escapades."



Jack Ziegler (8/10/1998)

[Return to Main Menu](#) ►



*"I'm really proud of my daughter.
She's a thorn in the side of the patriarchy."*



“Your pot o’ gold is doing nothing for you sitting at the end of the rainbow. At the very least, you should put it in a no-risk interest-bearing account.”



“Do you promise to maintain strict waiter-patron confidentiality?”

THEORIES OF EVERYTHING





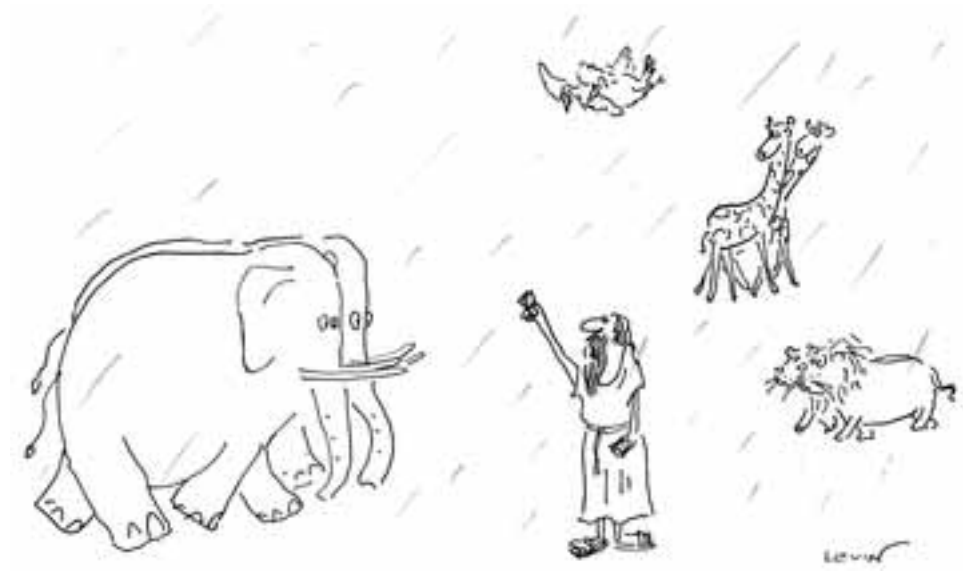
*"Like everyone else these days, we've made
most of our friends through our kids."*



“Unfortunately, there’s no cure—there’s not even a race for a cure.”



“Oh, God. Here comes the global-village idiot.”



"Twofers! Twofers!"



"Thank you, Adrian. Parenting is a learning process, and your criticisms help."





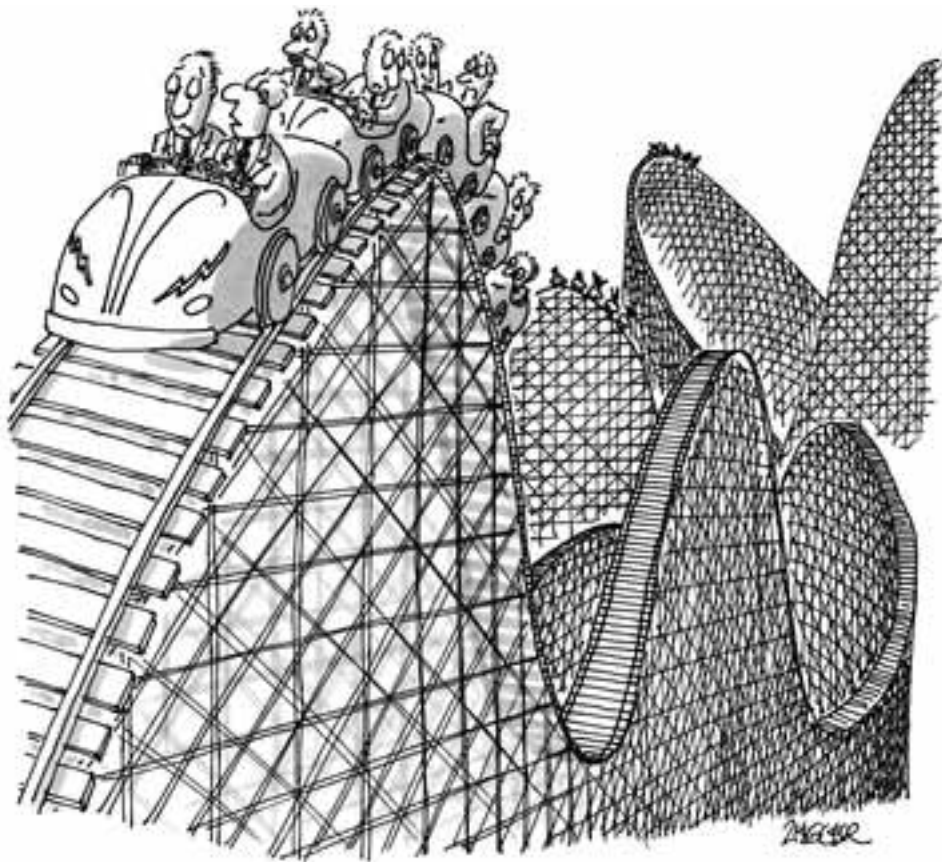
*“Mr. Dyer says he has no interest in speaking to anyone
who would remain on hold for so long.”*



"Hold it right there."



“You know, you’d make someone a wonderful ex-wife.”



"Dow Jonesy enough for you?"



"Finally, we realized where all that anger was coming from."



"The old pearly gates looked nice, but they were hell to maintain."



*"And so, due to the appearance of wrongdoing,
I've decided to simulate my resignation."*



*"I was afraid I was lying to myself, but,
thank God, I passed the polygraph."*



"I have nothing to say—my clothes say it all."



Do we still have Paris? Just thought I'd check."





"This is Norman's little bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms."



"Jessica has an idea about going to the beach that she'd like to pitch you."

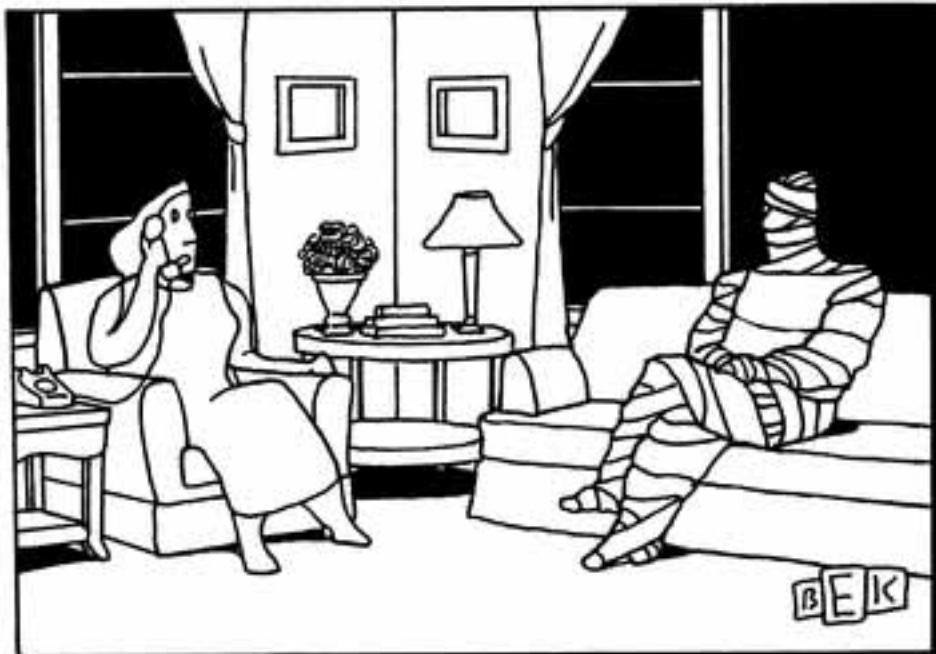


"I could elaborate on that four-month gap in my employment history, but then I'd have to kill you."



"You don't get an office. You get cargo pants."





"Maybe I should have gone with cremation."



1998

GIFTS FROM THE HOUSE OF LOW GOALS

T-Shirts



Special-Occasion Cakes



Cards



Trophies



R. CHW



"If you've finished reading the tablets, please pass them back to the front."



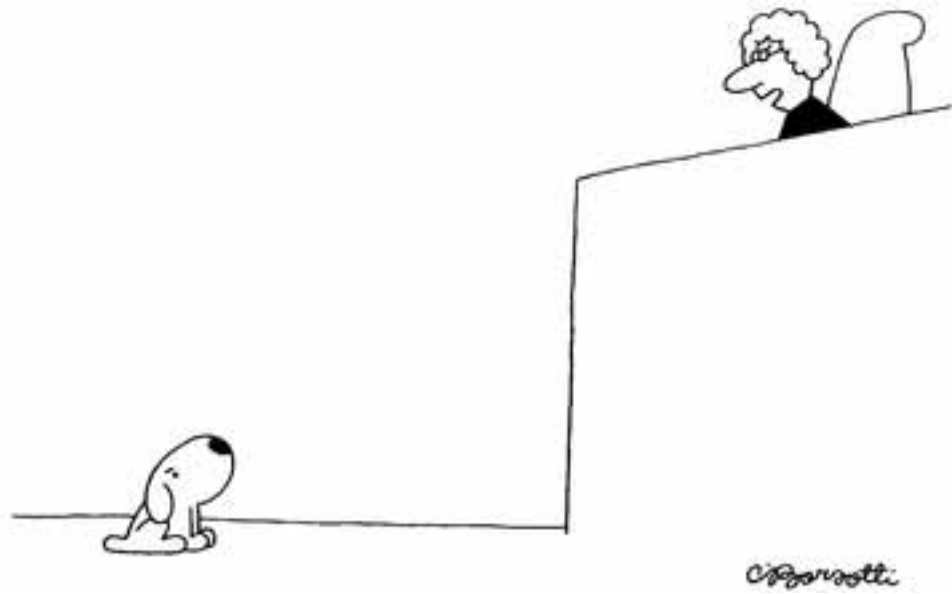
“Well, my dry cleaner says . . .”



"You chant for inner peace. I'm chanting for a development deal."



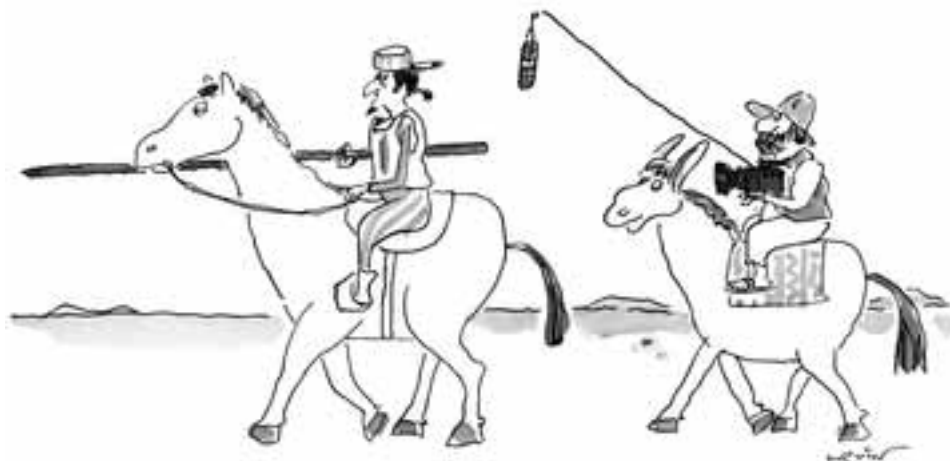
"Sir, the tip of the iceberg."



"The rug will not be sent out for lab tests."



*“Those two are recent Powerball money.
The people by the table are old state-lottery money.”*





*"The following obstruction of justice was filmed
live before a law-enforcement audience."*



"This is a very important book. In fact, it's too important to publish."





“Expressions of support for your attempted suicide keep pouring in.”



*"Gee, but I miss the heightened eroticism of those
five and a half years of conjugal visits."*



"Up a hundred and sixteen points! If only we'd had the foresight to invest ten minutes ago."



“Our best strategy may be to destigmatize embezzlement.”





"Bob's the name. Toxic-waste handling's the game."



*“You serve an inferior wine, Ted,
but you have a nice view of Peconic Bay.”*



"You left your goddam car in the driveway again!"



“O.K., I’m sitting. What is it?”



"It's important that no one see us talking together."







"These days, everybody's so wishy-washy."



"I'm sorry, but Chef Scott feels he's moved beyond that concept."



"It's very me, but I hate myself."





"You know the Birkenstocks."





*“O.K., maybe it’s not as exciting as the old clubs,
but I doubt that Giuliani will try to close it down.”*

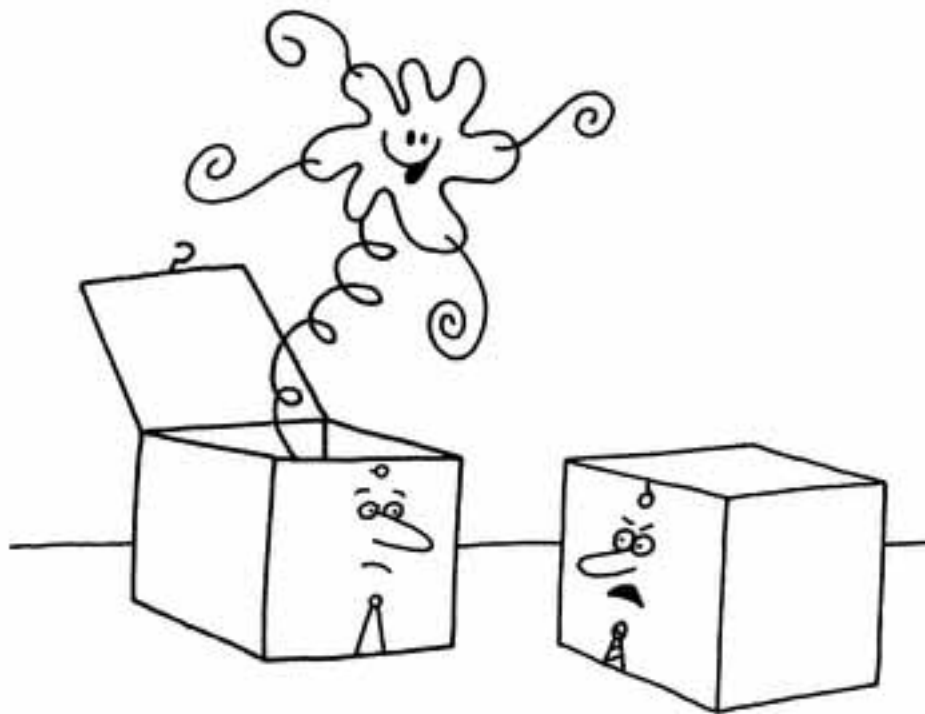




“Well, well, well! If it isn’t hanky and panky!”



*“Use the back door from now on, kids.
That’s where I’ve installed our new metal detector.”*



Barsotti

*"Take my advice, Haskins, and
keep your out-of-the-box ideas to yourself."*



"I'm going to be late, dear. It's total craziness here."

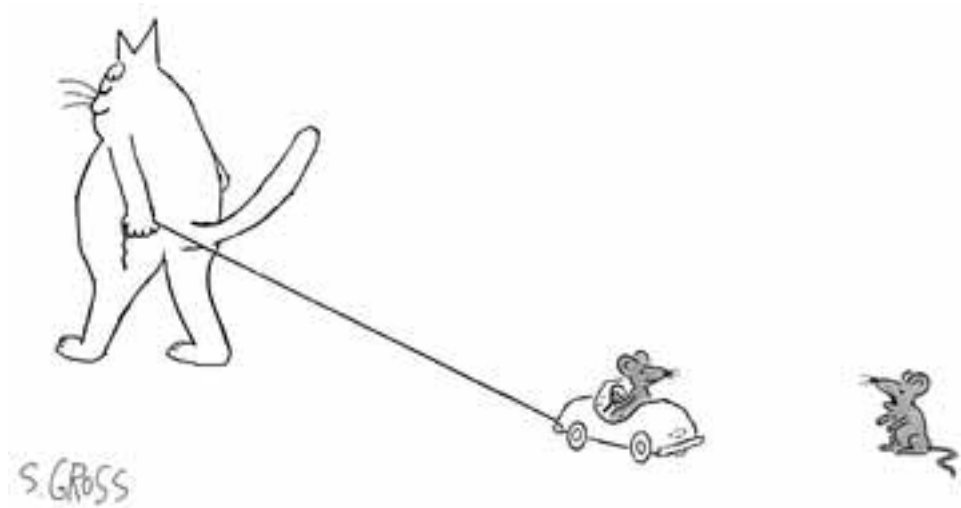


"I'm sorry, sir. The hotcakes have been all snapped up."





“It appears to be a heroic hunting epic followed by a retraction.”



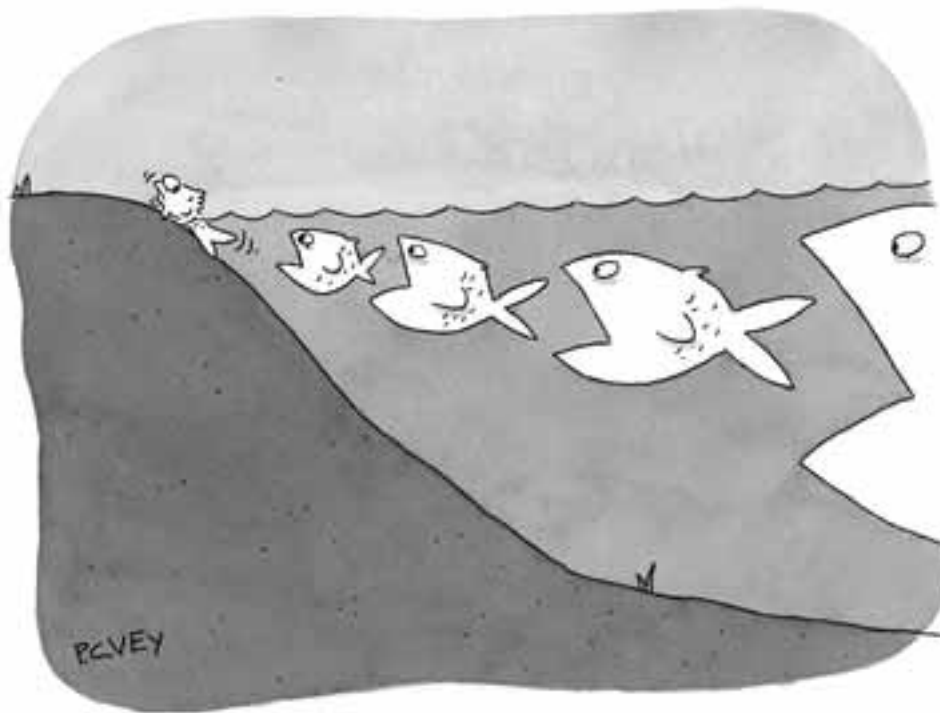
“For God’s sake, think! Why is he being so nice to you?”



"My problem is I grew up too fast."



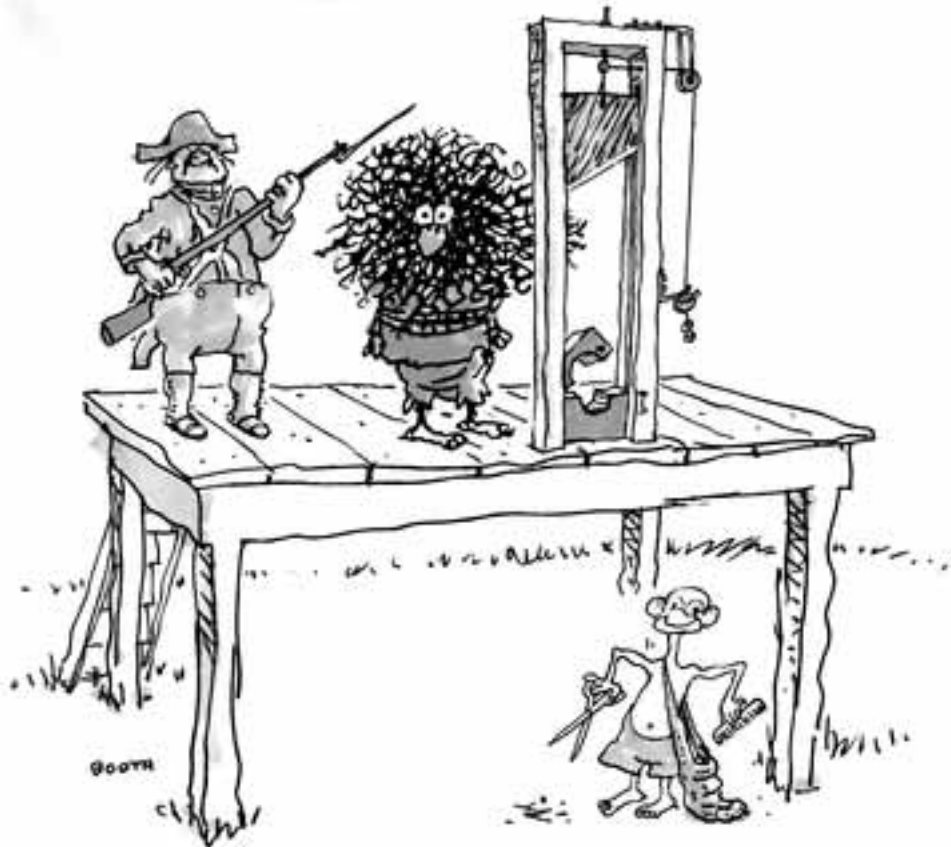
*"You have the right to a phalanx of attorneys.
If you cannot afford a phalanx of attorneys, a
phalanx of attorneys will be appointed to you."*





*"I'm using my married name right now, but I'm
keeping my maiden name on ice, just in case."*







"Hey, I'll do the kvelling around here."



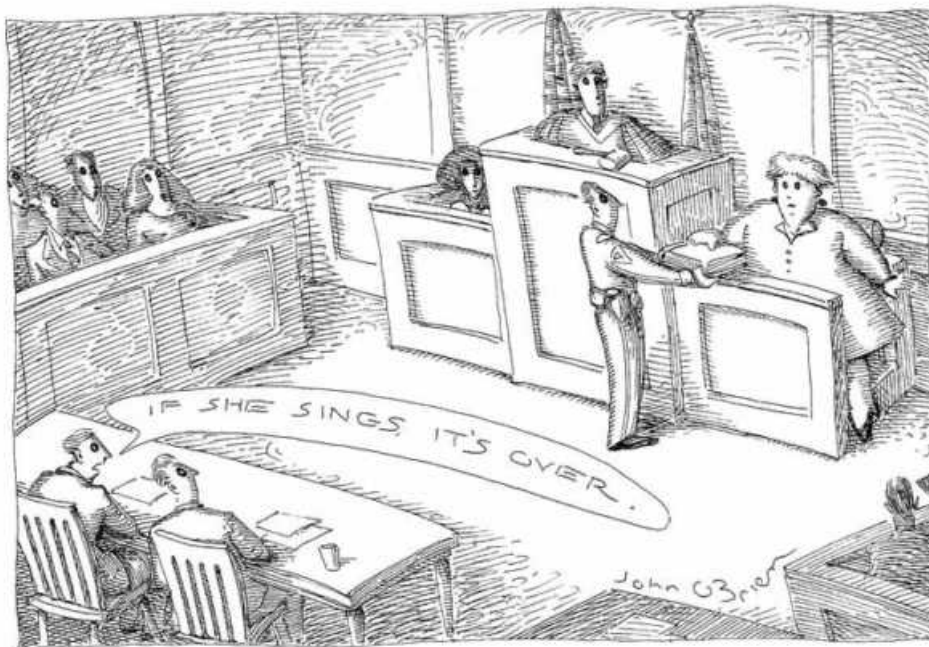
"Sosa's great, but McGwire is my hero."

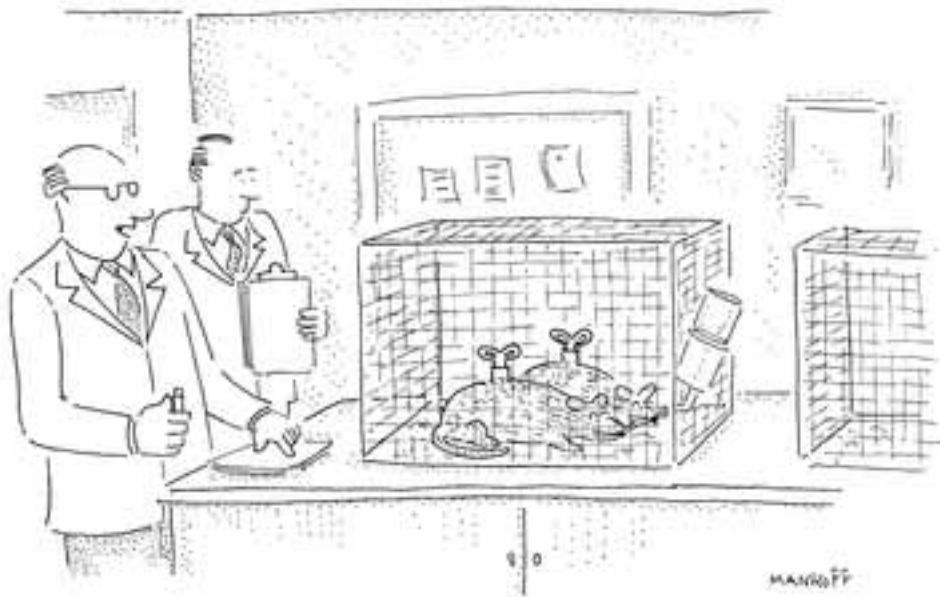


"Got a minute? A couple of young worrieds need reassuring."



“Yes, we are taking in laundry.”





*"The results are meaningless, but it gets
the animal-rights people off our backs."*



*“You have to understand.
The hand that was feeding me was a total bastard.”*



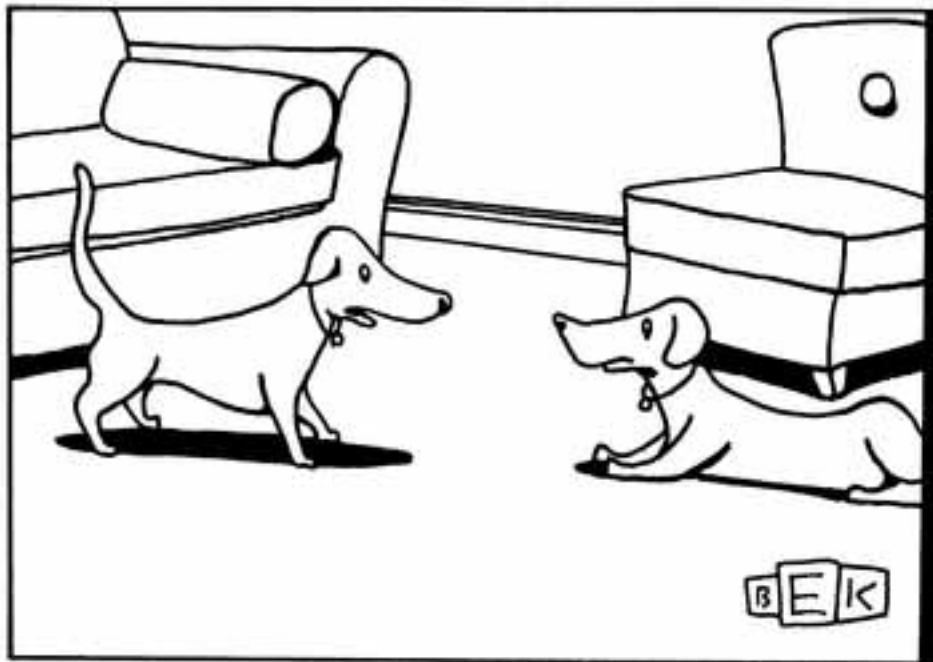
"Looks like broker-assisted suicide."



"He's a real mom magnet."



"I am not the famous heart surgeon, but I am in his medical group."



"It's the naps you don't take that you regret the most."



"My client would like to do his community service in the financial community."



*"We've travelled the world looking for our next C.E.O.,
as was foretold in our corporate legends. We think your
little Tim might be that C.E.O."*



"I asked You, in the nicest possible way, to make me a better person, but apparently You couldn't be bothered."





"And this is Helen, my wife by a previous marriage."

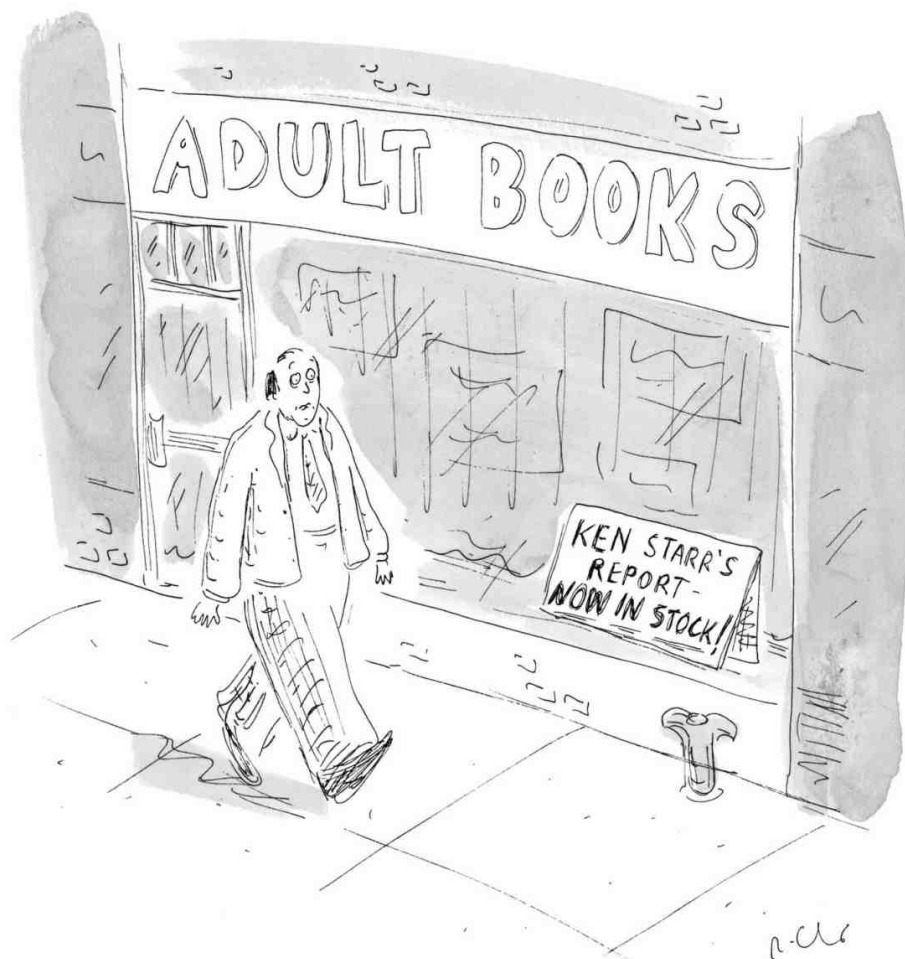


"I loved your E-mail, but I thought you'd be older."

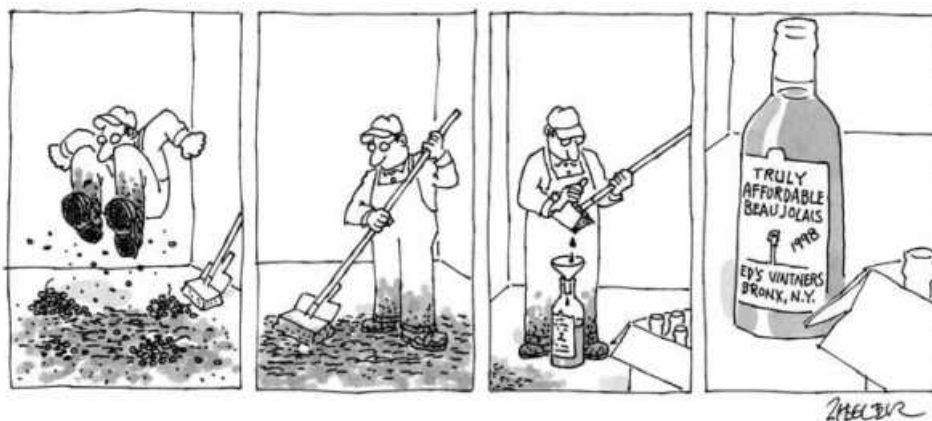




“If I take back what I said about your pants, will you let me go?”









"I thought I liked babies, but, as it turned out, I mainly like baby clothes."



“Are you ready to play ‘Give me a break, I was only human’?”

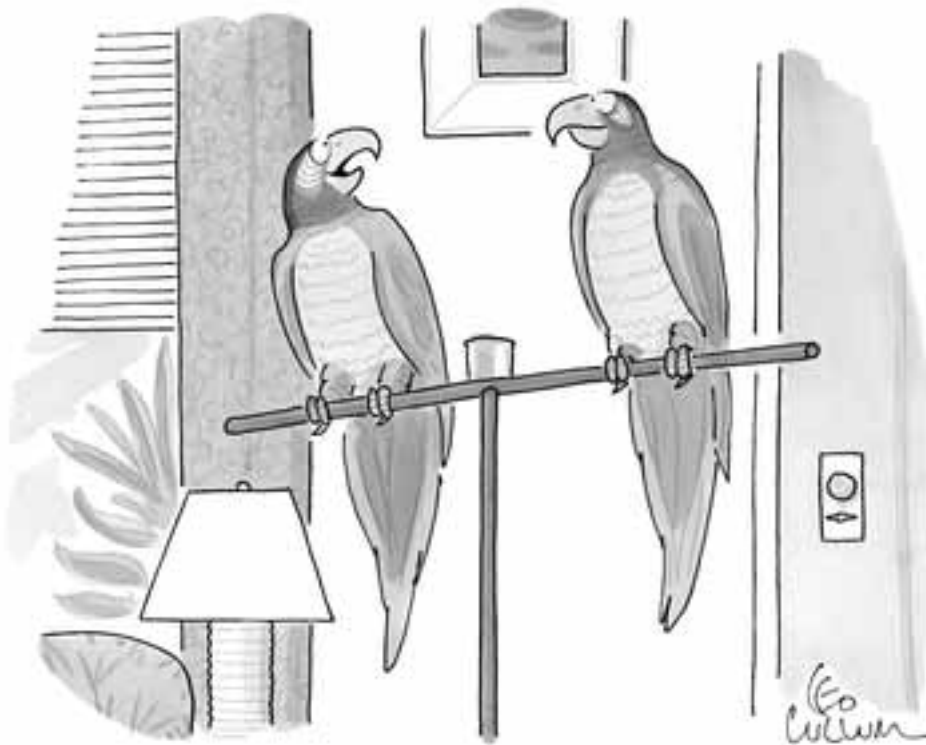




"A large Coke and an order of fries."



"Please listen carefully to the available options."



"I've never written anything, but I think I have a good ear for dialogue."



"They're all sons of bitches."



"Children, today's story works on many levels."





*“Connie and I have broken through to a new level.
We’re divorced.”*



"I was attracted by his edgy cynicism, but I hated his cologne."



*"It's my family coat of arms, Joe—
smoked salmon couchant on a field of cream cheese."*



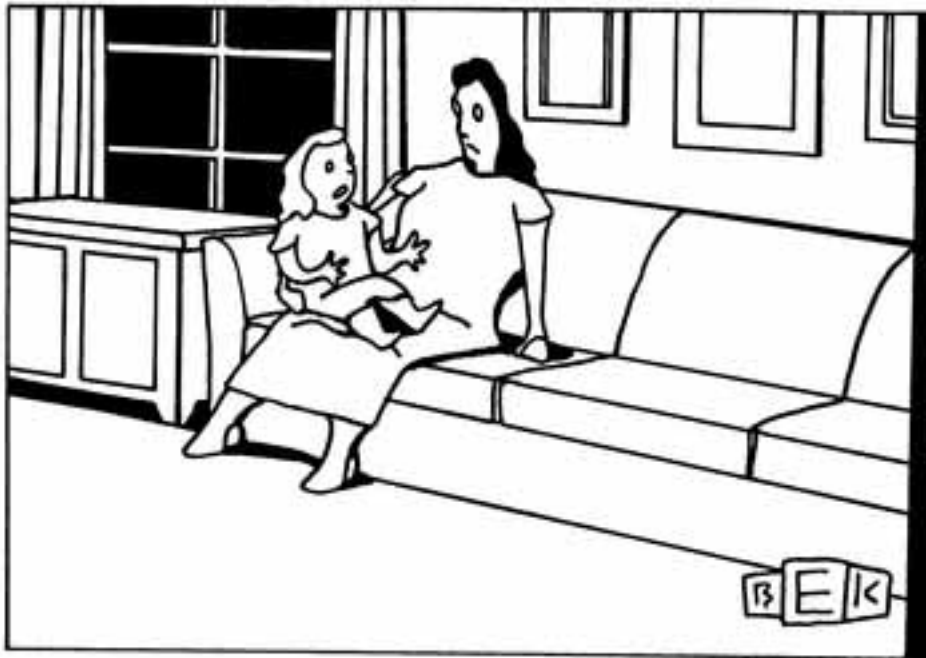
"When you asked me to dinner, I had an inkling it would be dinner theatre."



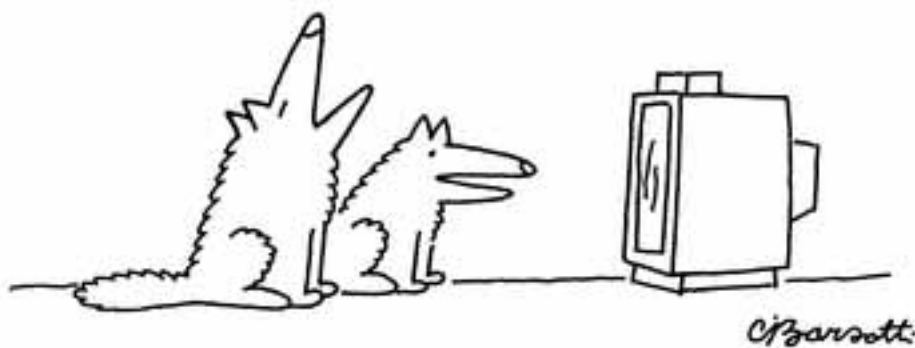
"I'm so hungry I could eat half a sandwich."







“So did the fair princess ever develop melanoma?”



"Keep it up—the picture's coming in."



"My heart goes out to the White House lawyers."



“Ranch, creamy Italian, French, or global?”



"That's Norman. He was badly miscast as my husband."



*"I think we should all be thankful that Bill Clinton never had
an inappropriate relationship with Joyce Maynard."*



"And now, if you don't want to know today's Dow Jones closing, look away from your set until the music stops."



"And only you can hear this whistle?"



"We have to be missing twenty-four hours before I consider us lost."



"Could you tell me the shock value of this?"



"He walks the walk and talks the talk. But he doesn't drink the drink."



SKELETONS IN KENNETH STARR'S CLOSET

Had a little bit of a "thing" for
Doris Day, but that was a while ago.



Found out that someone he knew smoked
pot occasionally, and didn't make a
citizen's arrest, but he was young then.



Once stole a washcloth from a Best
Western, but it was by mistake.



Jaywalked in New York City, but that
was before it was a serious crime.



R. Chast





"Comfort food for the eyes."



"I've got to know, Beverly. Is there another attorney?"

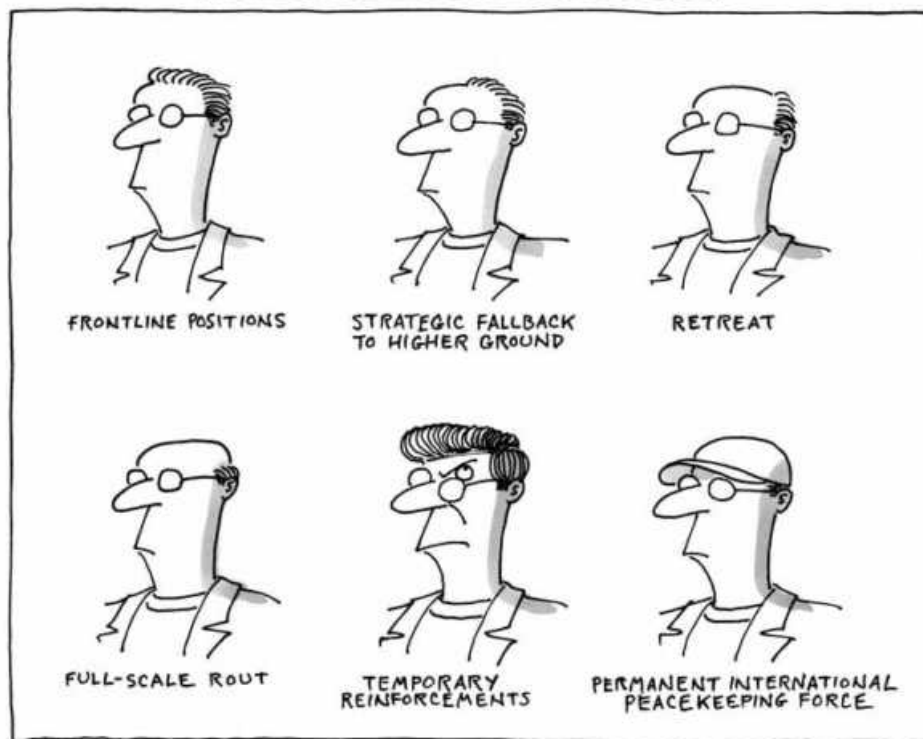


"I'd read so much about it beforehand that I couldn't help being disappointed when I actually became enlightened."



"It's all string theory to me."

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CAMPAIGN



ZIEGLER





"It all depends on how you define 'chop.'"



"Well executed, both of you!"



*“Harper, we’d like you to become the company fall guy.
The position comes with a generous severance package.”*



“‘Chicken Vindaloo for the Hindu Soul’ is but the tip of the iceberg in our initial strategy of global expansion.”







*"I give you a fifty-fifty chance. Pay me up front,
and I'll make it sixty-forty."*



*"This time, I'm afraid it's serious.
He just met a girl named Maria."*



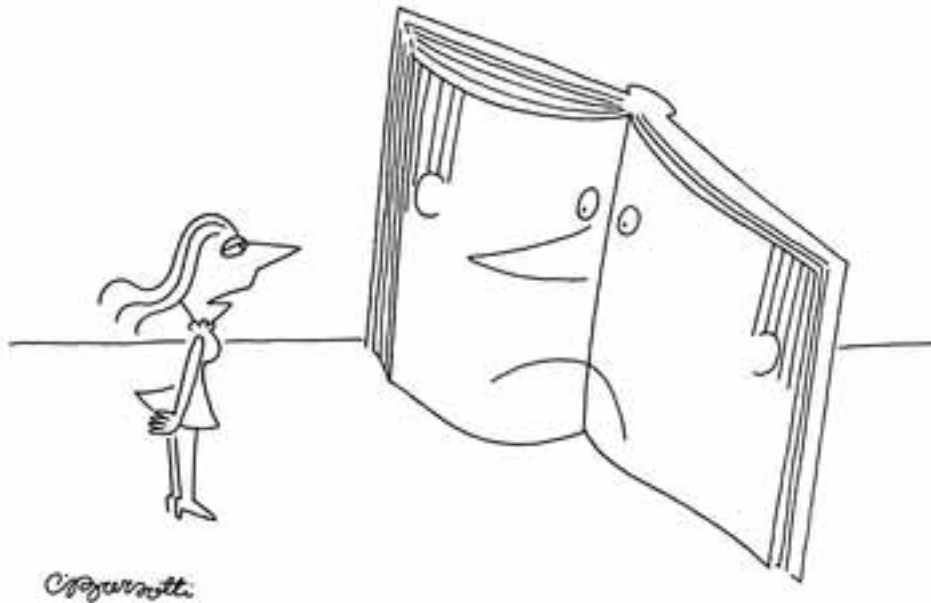
"Ms. Stottlemeyer is my personal organizer."



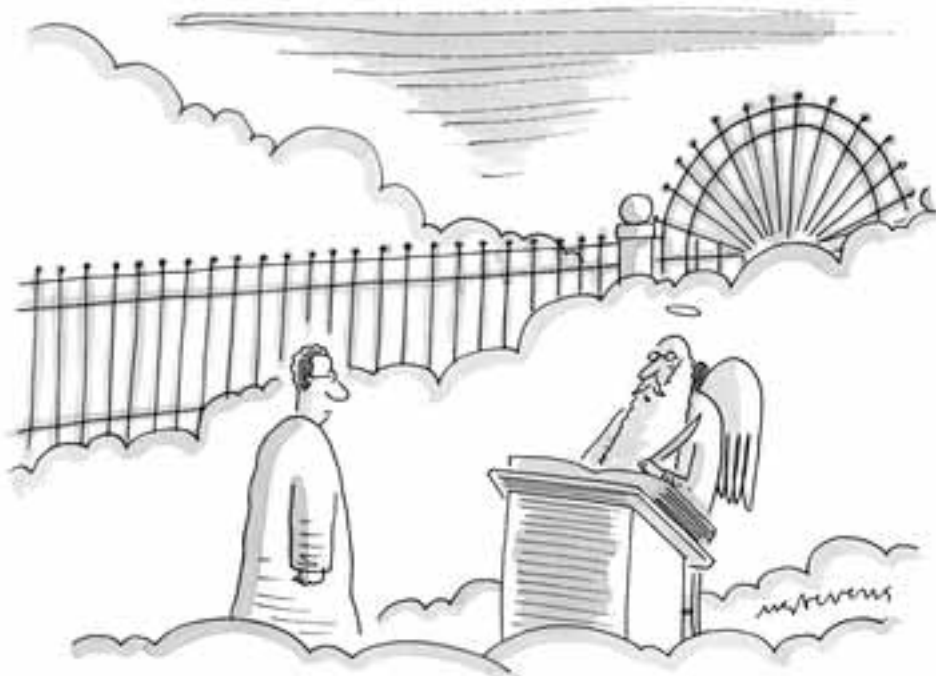
"First, they do an on-line search."



"I'm afraid it's very close to something we've already turned down."



*"Sorry, Barrington, but you've failed to live up
to the glib promise of your early chapters."*



“Any fruits or vegetables?”



"I'm prescribing a divorce, but these days it's practically painless."



"We have a calendar based on the book, stationery based on the book, an audiotape of the book, and a videotape of the movie based on the book, but we don't have the book."



*"In the future, everybody will have
fifteen minutes of health-care coverage."*



“And, in this corner, weighing five pounds more than she’d like . . .”



"I'm looking for a hedge against my hedge funds."





"I'd like to help you out, but I've misplaced my wand."



“O.K., I messed up. He didn’t have to rub my nose in it.”

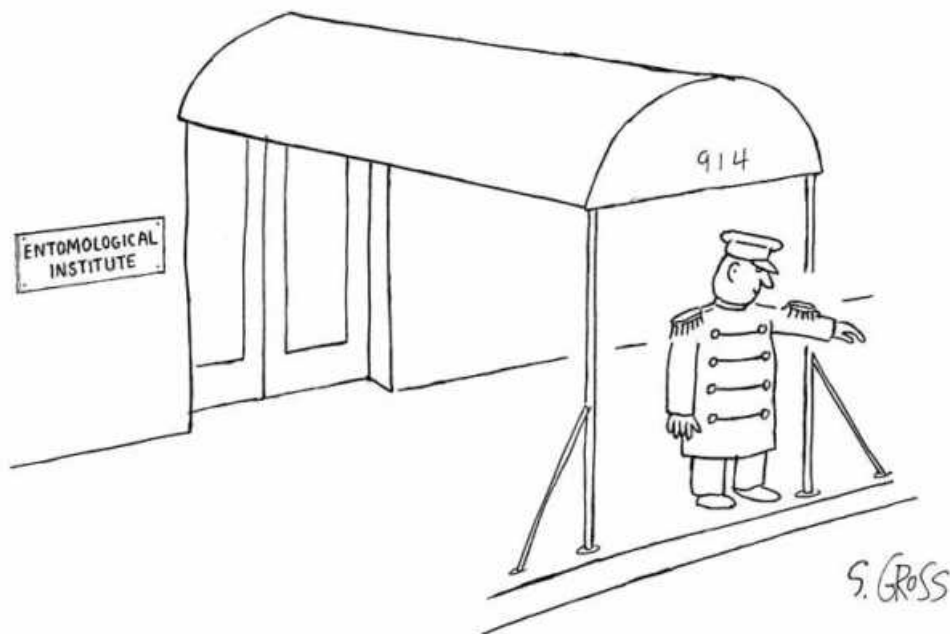


"It's a medical miracle that you made it through that last medical miracle."



THE WEATHER CHANNEL'S NEW FALL LINEUP







"I feel like I got a lot accomplished today."



"Are you decent?"



"I'm scared. Can I sleep with you tonight?"



"We save all the original packaging in case we have to return something."





*"I shot a man in Reno, just to watch him die. After that,
law school was pretty much a given."*



OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT VERSION



*"I want everybody to shake hands with some of
the cleanest money in our whole campaign."*





"Did you join the testimony-of-the-month club?"



"She's inconsolable since Mizrahi went belly-up."



*"Give this to Evers and see that he passes
it on to Chance when he's finished."*

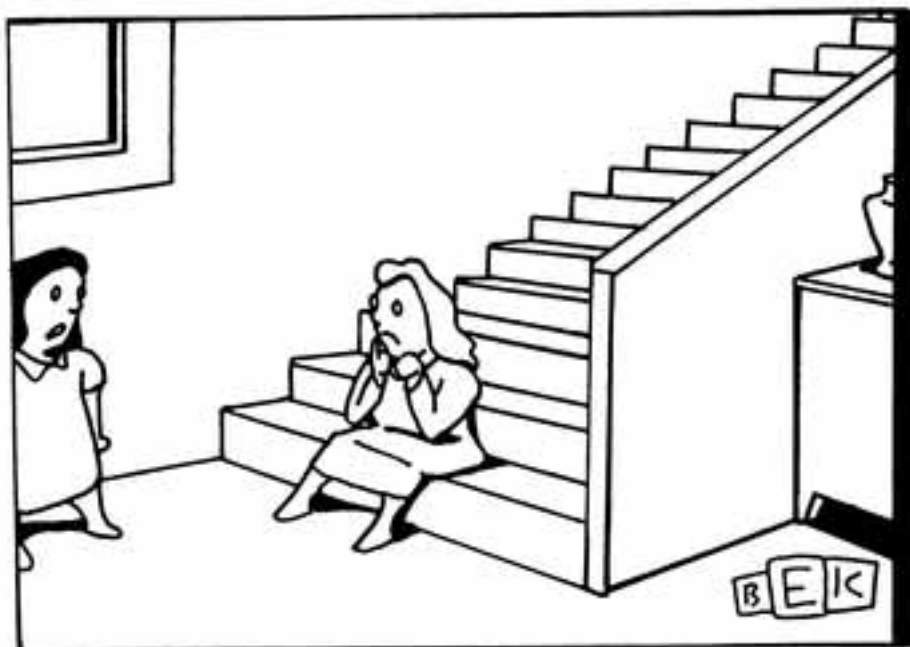


"I'm having myself sculpted in bronze for your sixtieth birthday."

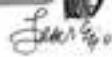




"I love the convenience, but the roaming charges are killing me."



*"The problems will remain the same,
but apparently they get wordier and wordier."*



"Perhaps that peculiar odor is autumn."



*“When ‘Hey Diddle Diddle’ came along,
we jumped at the chance to work together.”*



*“That’s a very generous offer, David.
Would anyone else on the board like to take a vow of chastity?”*



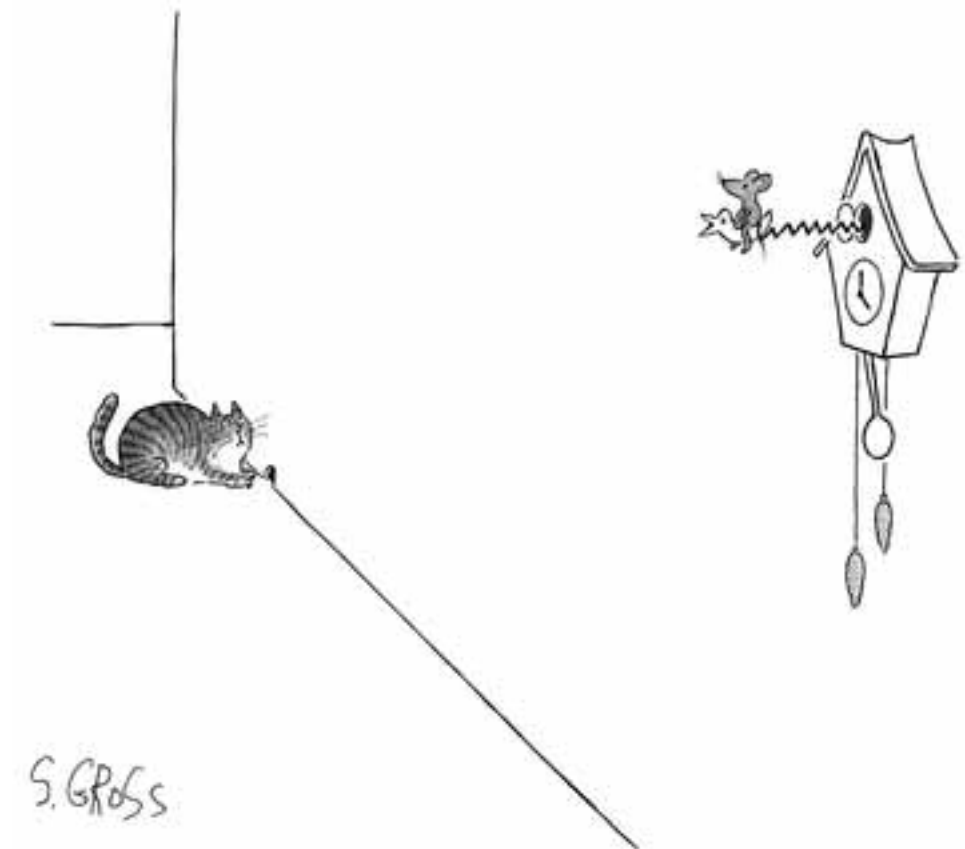
"I name this place Terra Incognita."



*“Senator, the American people, whom you often mention
in your speeches, would like a word with you.”*



"I knew he couldn't be trusted with all that hair."





"Spare us the gory details."



"I'm registered with Toys R Us and F.A.O. Schwarz."



Barsotti

"Just tell him it's 'other people' as in 'other people's money.'"



"Hold everything!"

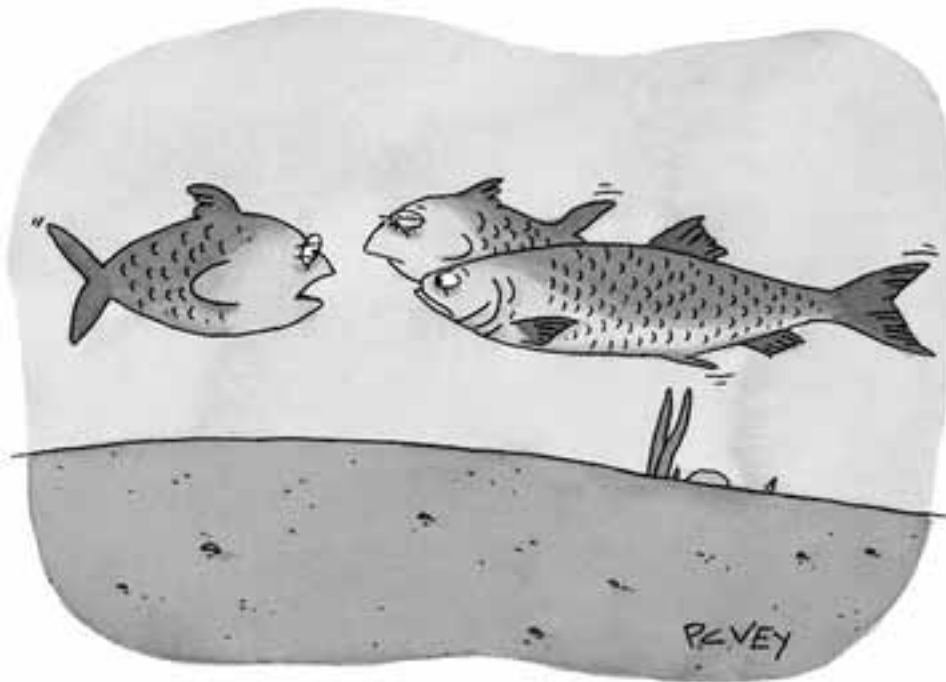








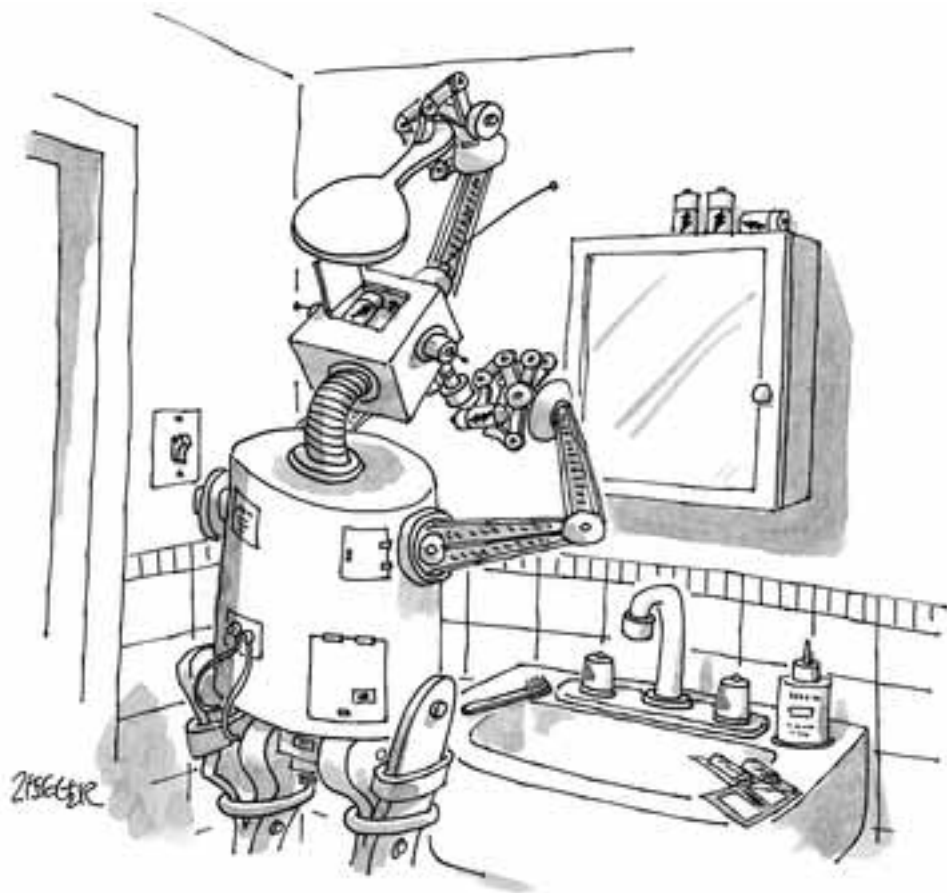
"It's a children's book, with lots and lots of interesting recipes."



*"You may be in love, but can you support
my daughter on what a herring makes?"*

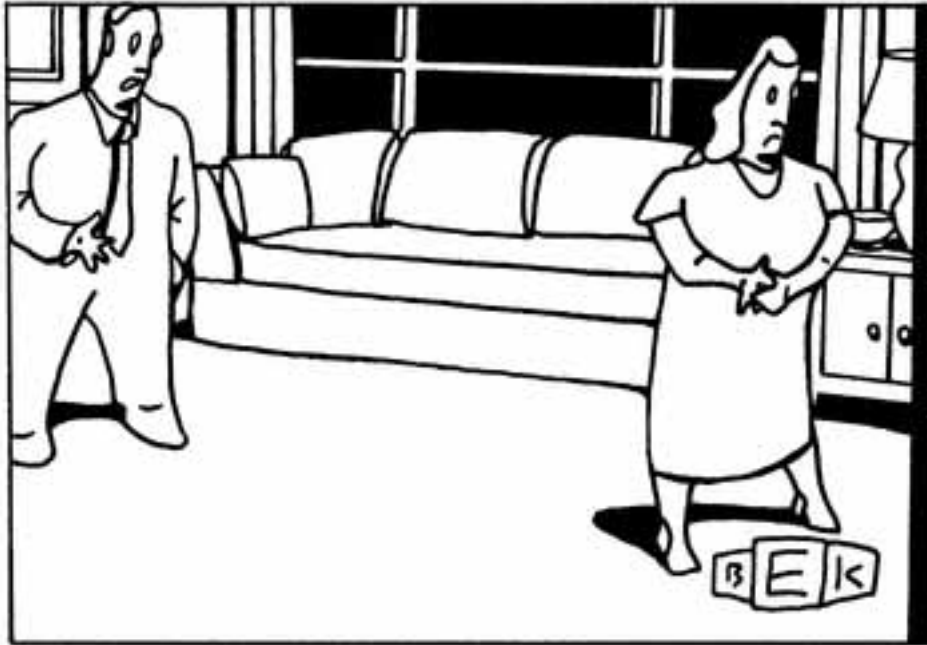


"I dreamed the Yankees lost in Game Seven."





“Hey, didn’t I just see you on Court TV?”



*"Of course I care about how you imagined I thought
you perceived I wanted you to feel."*



"Good night, Mommy. Good night, Daddy."



"May I remind the witness that he is under water."



“Gee whiz, Mr. Collins—two hundred and six isn’t old!”



"Can I call you back? I'm shopping."



"Of course, he's very low-maintenance."



"I've been stalking actors, but eventually I'd like to stalk a director."



"Someday, son, all my campaign funds will be yours."



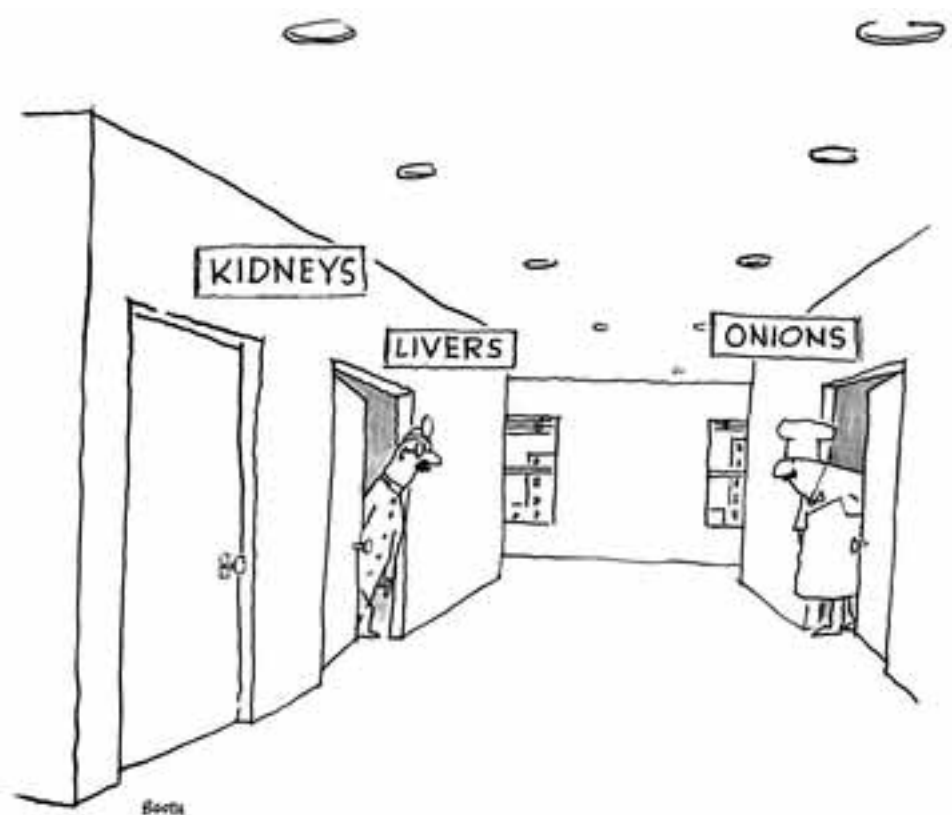


“Dad, remember how you bungled the Lorton account?”



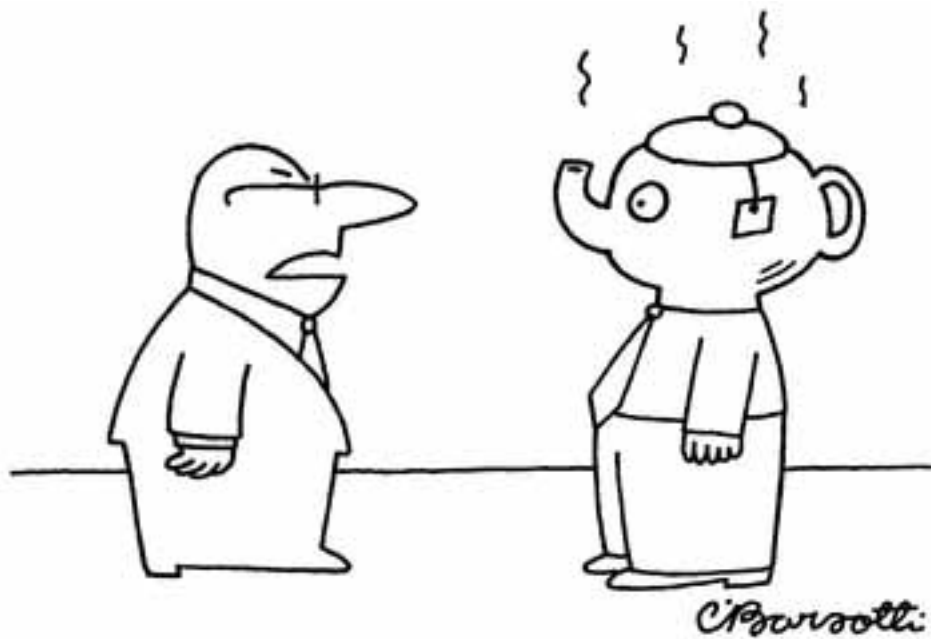
"There was a major reshuffle. Now I'm out on my ear."





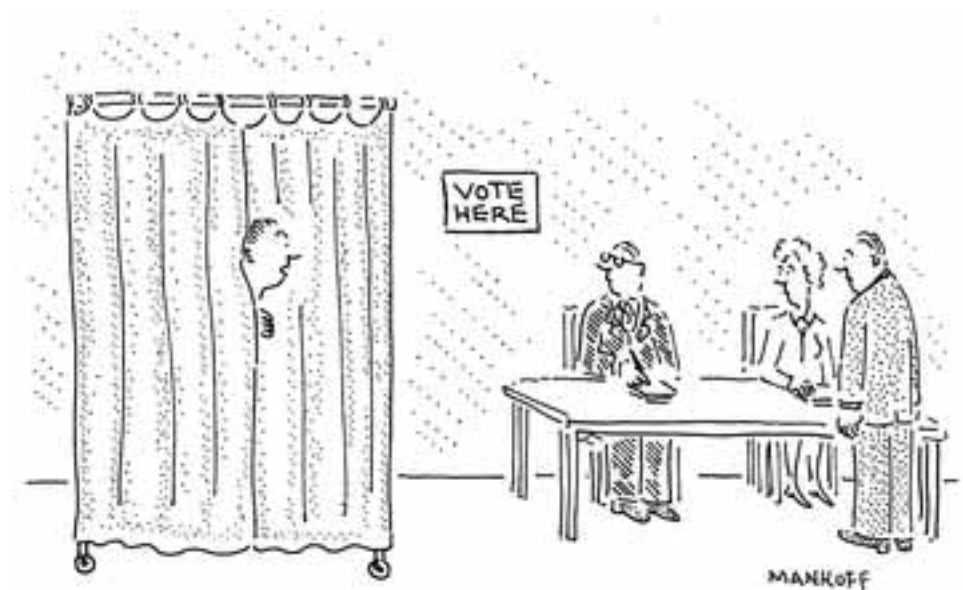


"Look, I'm not blaming you. I'm just suing you."



"Well, make yourself useful while you're steeping."





"Hey! There's no soap in here."



"You're doing fine. A little more perjury and you'll be out of the woods."

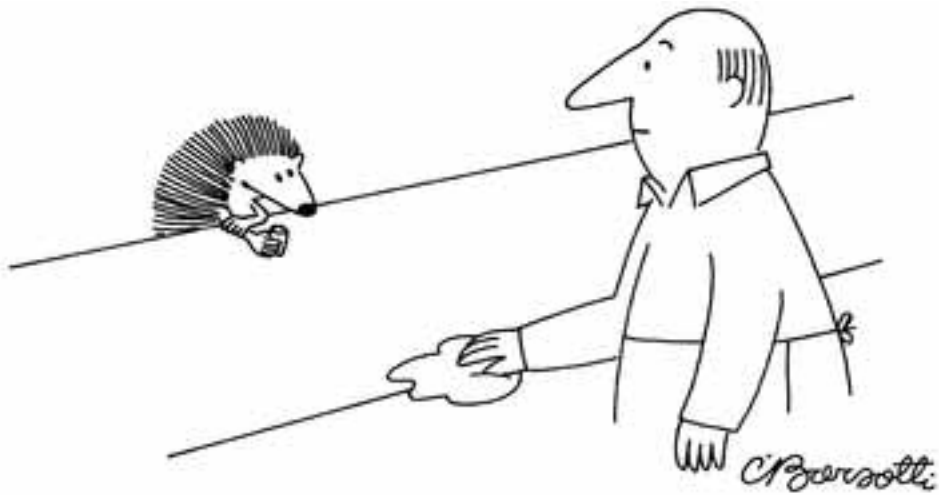




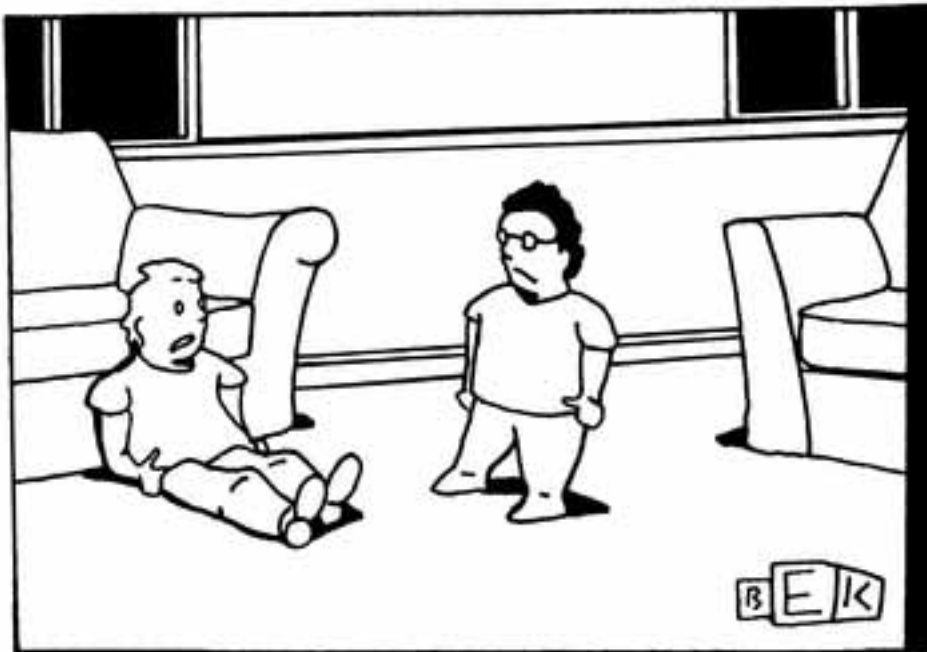
“Get me Room Service.”



"You're not ill yet, Mr. Blendell, but you've got potential."



“They say, ‘The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one great thing.’ Want to hear it?”



"Why are they always pushing quality on us?"



“Not tonight—I have the legal definition of a headache.”





"I'm not worrying. I've got most of my money in handbaskets."



*“Let’s be reasonable. Just approve my client, and we’ll
all be spared a lot of nasty litigation.”*



"Don't overdo it, dear."





*“It was different in the old days. They said,
‘Git along little dogie,’ and, by God, we got along.”*



“Why, these are nothing but a lot of tax-and-spend proposals!”



"And don't go whining to some higher court."



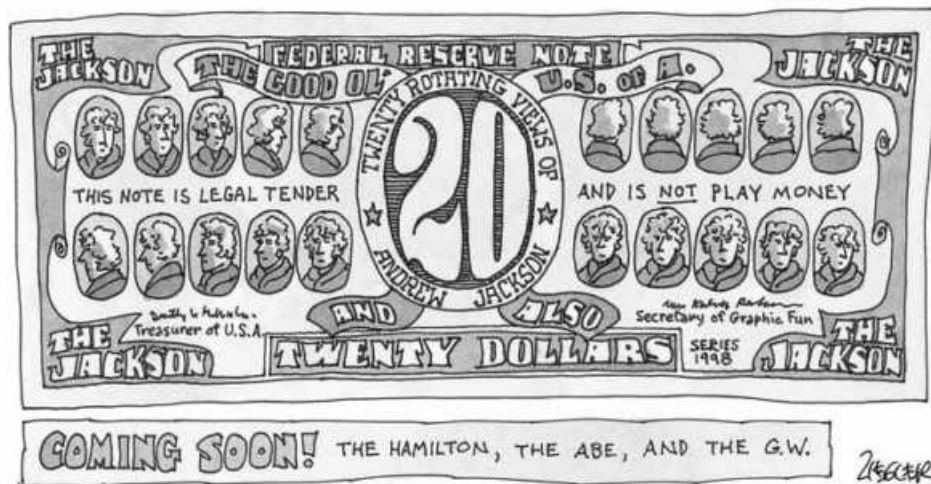


“Regular or high-definition?”

(1 OF 2)



(2 OF 2)

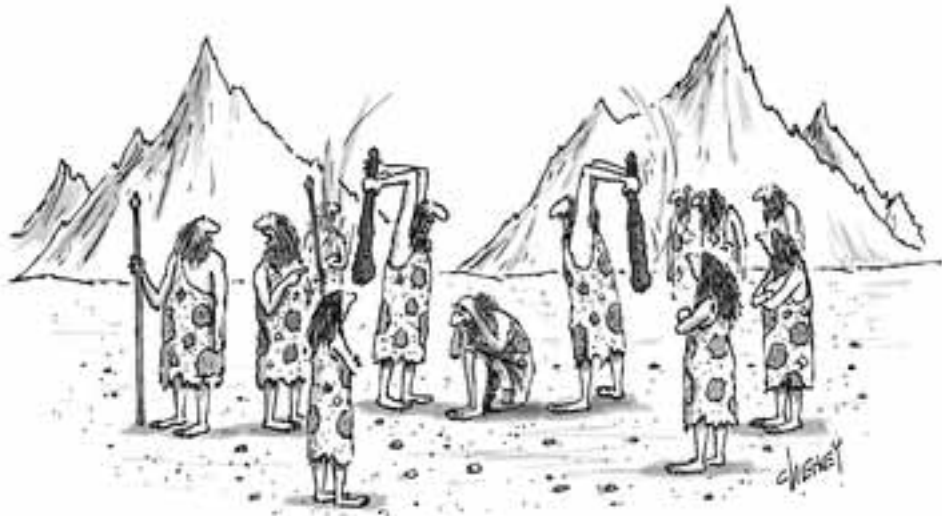




"You don't look as if you voted."



“Gee, these new twenties look just like Monopoly money.”



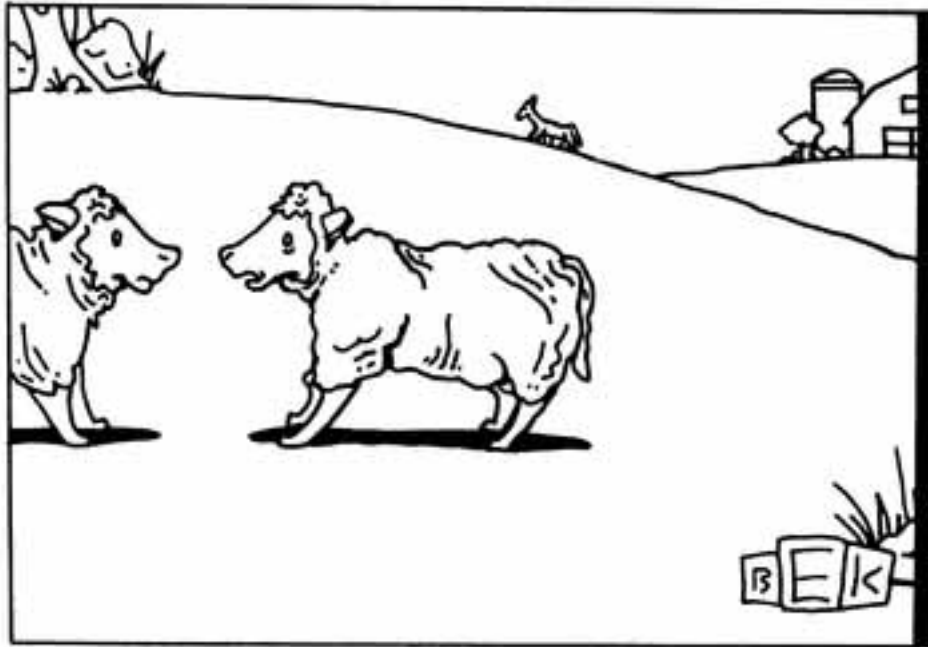
"You go on ahead. I want to watch the news."



"Have you got any cash on you?"



*“For the last time, Crawford, our firm is
‘warm and fuzzy,’ not ‘touchy-feely.’”*



"Every time he comes back from being sheared, we have to spend hours talking about how vulnerable he feels."



"Both sides described the meeting as a full and free exchange of bullets."



*"It's your real-estate agent.
She says she may have found you a higher ledge."*



"The important thing is to stay hydrated."



“And from now on you’ll address me as Jesse ‘The Governor’ Ventura.”



“Trust me, Senator. Many people have active and fulfilling sex lives long after they’ve retired from Congress.”



“He’s very angry. He wanted the tuna and egg.”

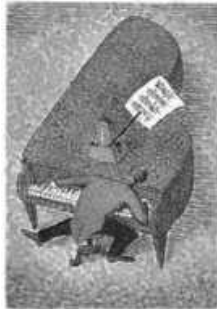




"Surprise me."



*"You can still go over the river and through the woods,
but it's cheaper to fly."*









*"I do what they tell me, I eat what they give me.
How do I know they're not a cult?"*

CHILDREN'S DREAM BEDTIME ROUTINE

7:30-8	Brush teeth; wash hands and face.
8-8:30	Get school stuff ready for next day.
8:30-9	Put pajamas on.
9-11	Watch sitcoms.
11-11:30	Watch pro wrestling.
11:30-12	Say good night to pets.
12-12:30	Midnight snack.
12:30-1	Video games.
1-1:30	Get into bed.
1:30-2:30	Reading hour.
2:30-3	Water break.
3-4	Read-aloud story time.
4-4:30	Last-minute fear assuaging.
4:30	Lights out.

Promise me I won't go blind during the night.

Read me another one.

Daddy? I'm thirsty.

LADY MONSTER LOVER

PINE PINE PINE PINE

That's gotta hurt!

BLAM

BLOFF

BOOF

Night, Whiskers!

n. ch





“G-27, G-27!”





Charles Barsotti

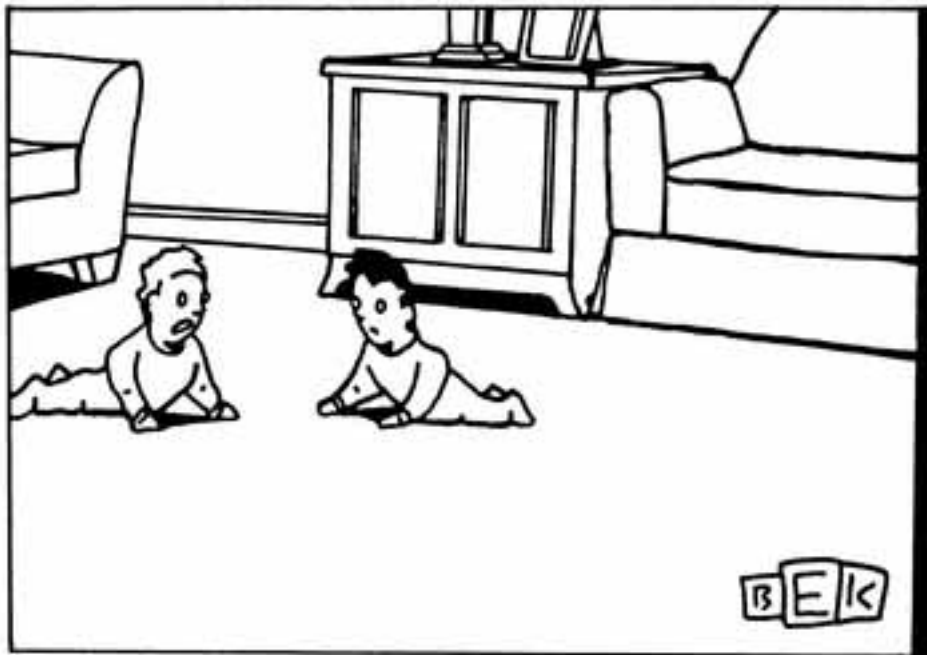
"I'm at the point where I find mixed signals reassuring."



"No. I don't want to see an all-male production of 'Little Women.'"



“Find us some clients who think long and have short memories.”



*"I'm hoping things will turn around.
I just signed with a hot new day-care center."*

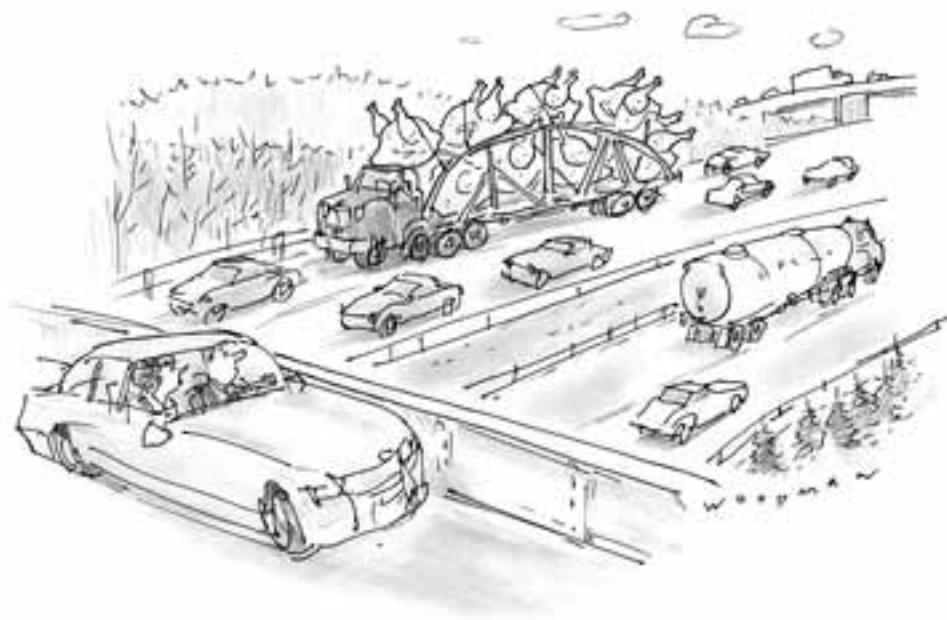


"Get me my gun. I want to squeeze off a few last rounds."





"Maybe you should see a meteorologist about it."





“We will begin with Schubert’s ‘Unfinished’ Symphony, and that will be followed by Beethoven’s ‘Unwanted Sexual’ Overture.”



*"Handwriting analysis has revealed that Spencer
is not in fact my husband."*



“Bad news. The mailman is going to attend the parole-board hearing.”



THE VENUS FLYTRAP LEATHER SECTIONAL





*“Might I recommend the orange Crayola for the smaller
flowers and the blue-green for the foliage.”*





DOG EAT DOG

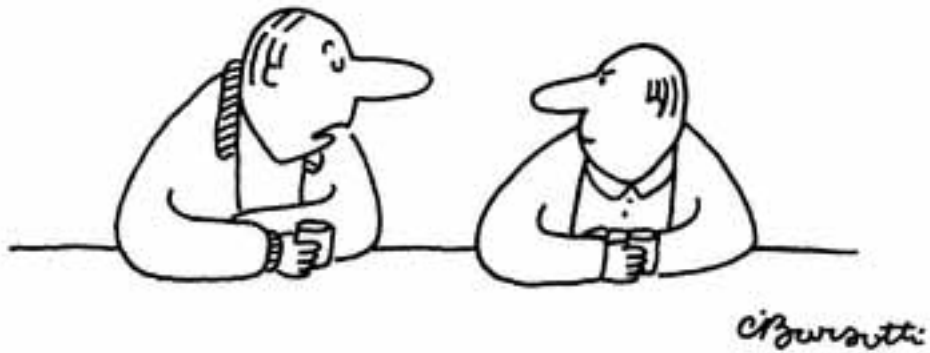




"I love the way you make those yams. You'll have to give me the recipe before your culture is obliterated from the face of the earth."



"A collection agency is threatening air strikes."



"Oh, like you know something the Internet doesn't know."



“Excellent—let’s run it through legal.”



SGROSS

"I don't care if she is a tape dispenser. I love her."



“Go ahead. Don’t think of it as plagiarism, think of it as an homage.”



"He just up and died. Typical."



"Believe me, you're just thinking about it too much."



"Thanks for getting married on such short notice."







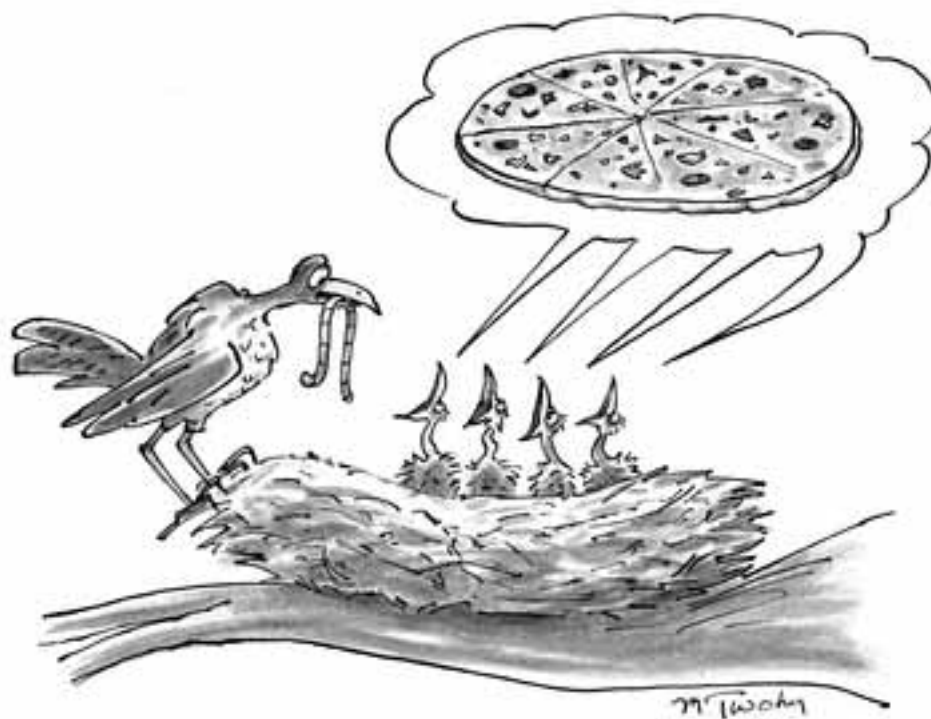
“Never, ever, think outside the box.”





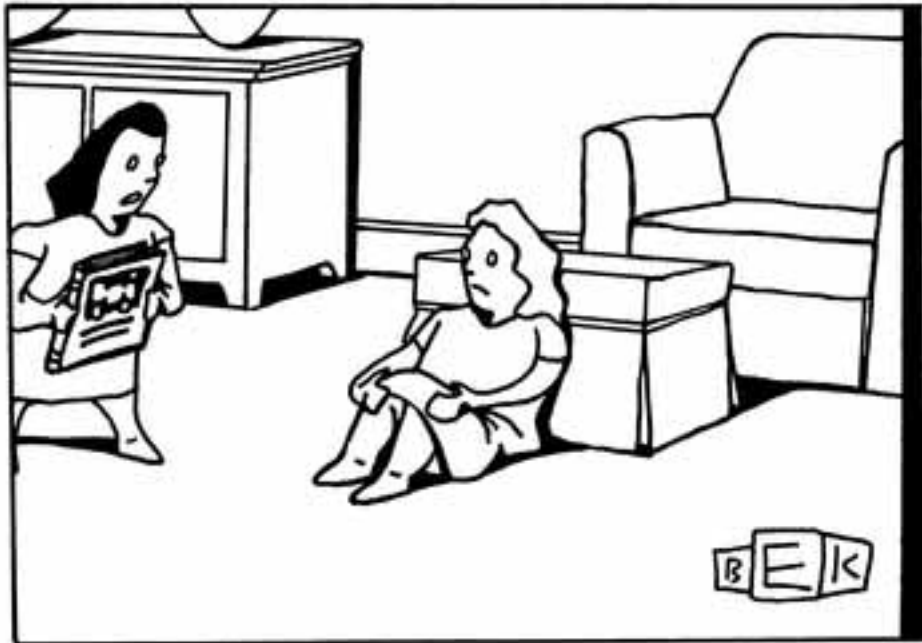
“For the last time—is this, or this not, the horse you rode in on?”



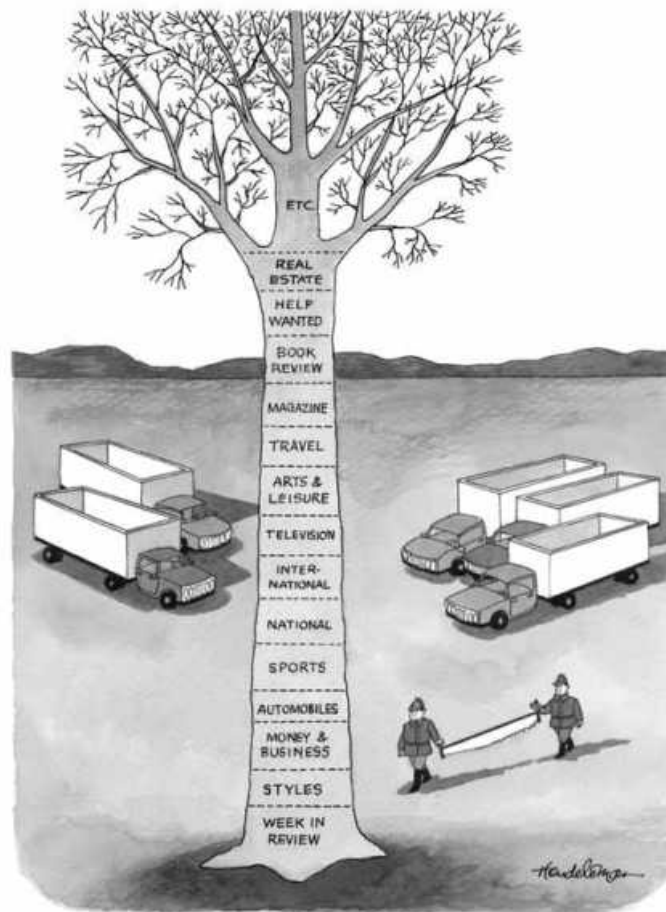




"Once you get past the divine right of kings, I'm not much into theology."



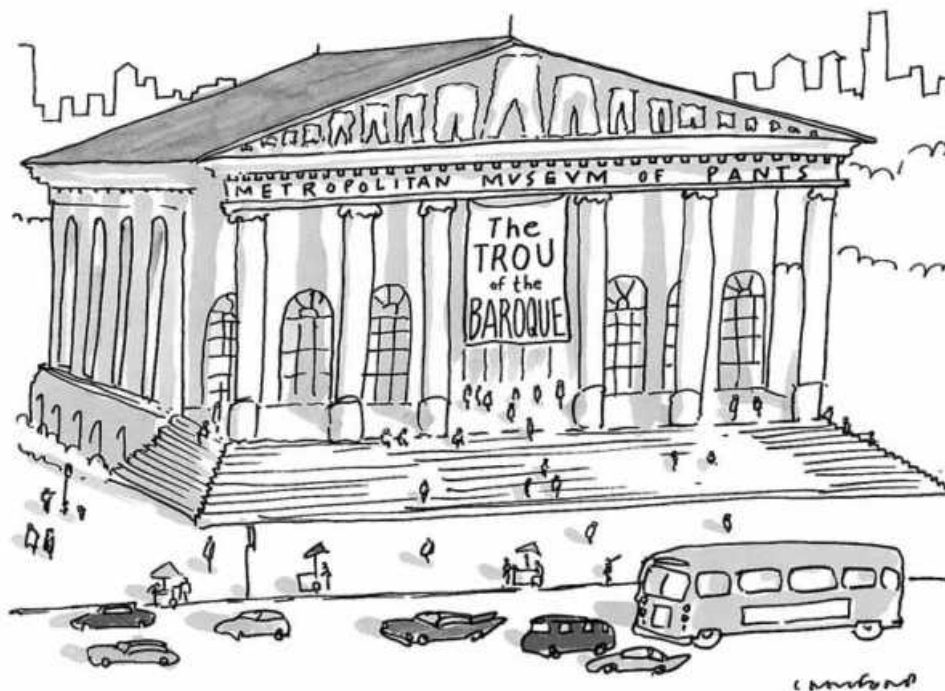
"He really captures what it's like to be a choo-choo train."



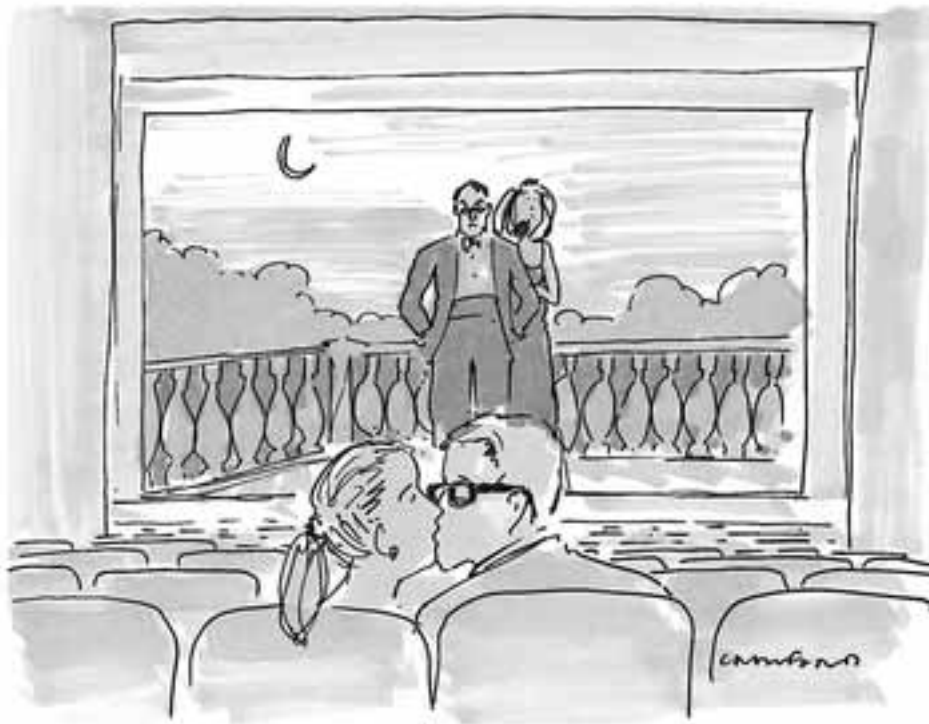


“Lenny, you’ve been called the king of sleaze, the biggest jerk in the universe, a big sack of garbage. But tell us: Who’s the real Lenny Lewis?”





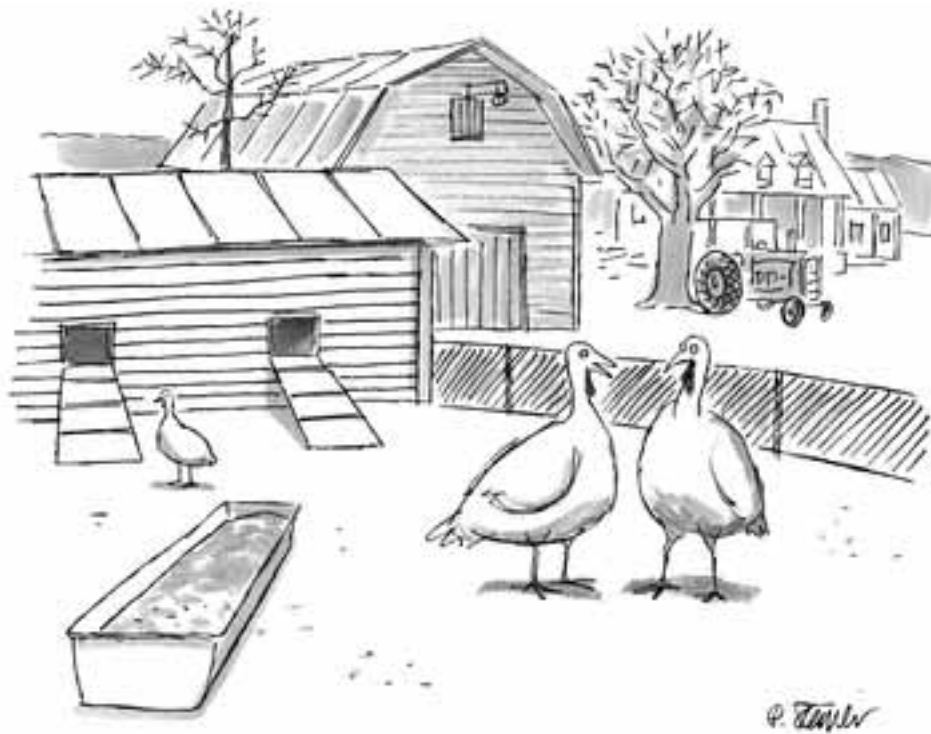








*"Wasting precious class time like that will
get you precisely nowhere in life."*



"I like it best after the holidays, when the crowds are gone."



"Polar? Or simply slow to warm."



"This isn't a hasty decision. A lot of daydreaming went into it."



“You’re always telling me how much you love me—but just once I’d like to hear you say it the way you said it in your deposition.”



*"The Trout Babette was awful,
but the Heimlich maneuver was excellent."*



*"Mr. Curtis can't come to the phone right now.
He's in the time-out chair."*



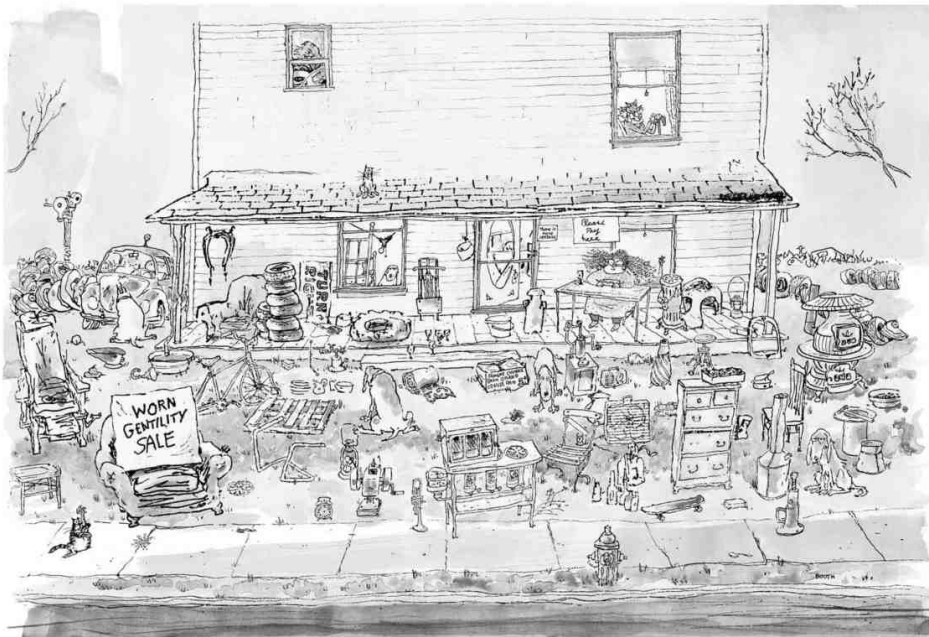
“Was he wearing any distinctive logos?”



“Freedom and crime go hand in hand, Your Honor. Look at Russia.”



*“From the top—‘Watermelon Man.’
Let’s sock it out and give Mrs. Ritterhouse a chance to really cook!”*





“That metallic grinding means her throwout bearings are shot. She’s backfiring through her carburetor. The tick indicates transmission trouble, and the smoke means she’s on fire.”



*“Rhino-horn powder works for Pederman
with no side effects, except the husbands.”*



"We already changed our phone service to something or other last week, so we don't need whatever it is you have."

1998 A LOOK BACK (1 OF 4)



1998 A LOOK BACK (2 OF 4)



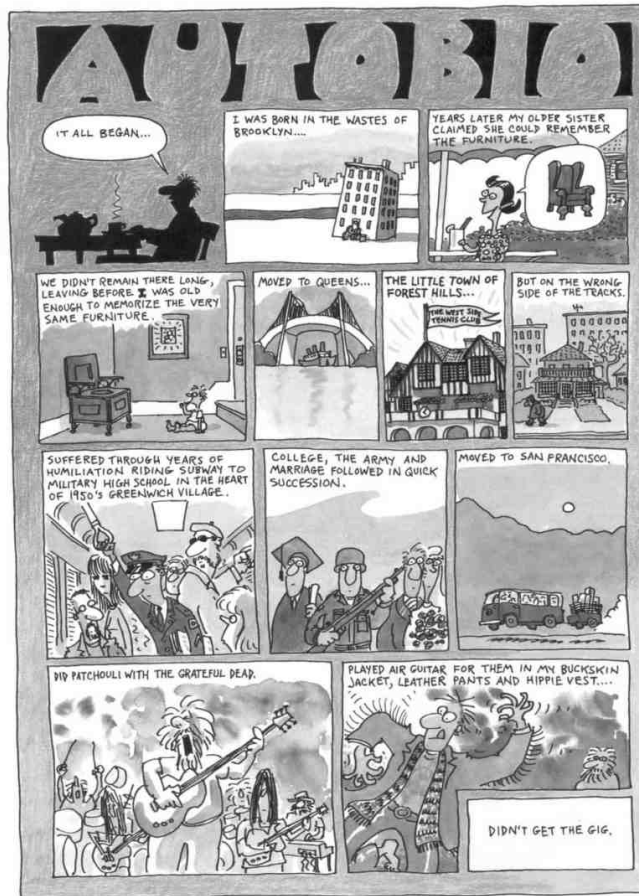
1998 A LOOK BACK (3 OF 4)



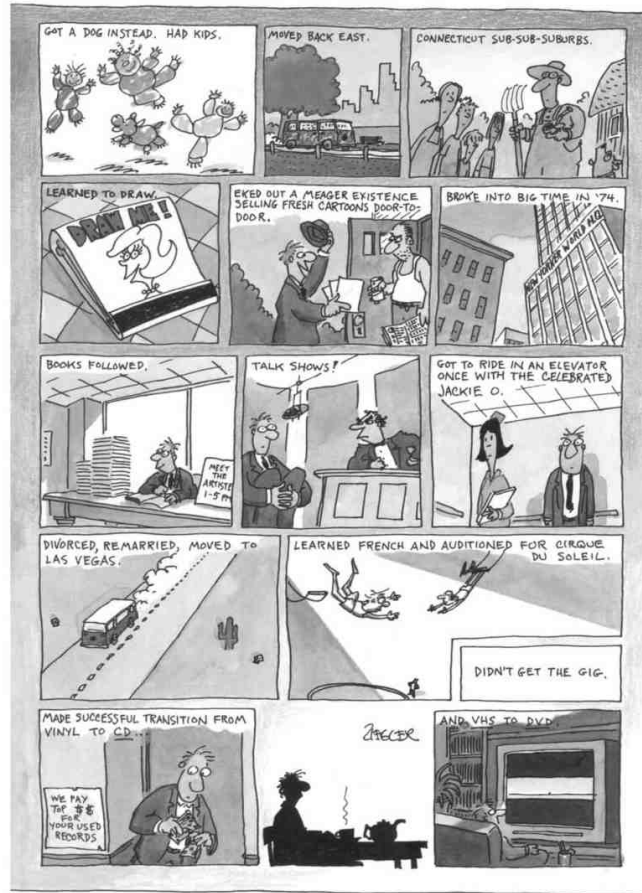
1998 A LOOK BACK (4 OF 4)



AUTOBIO (1 OF 2)



AUTOBIO (2 OF 2)



THE FUNNIES (1 OF 13)



*“Why, no. I’ve never thought of putting funny
little captions on the bottom.”*

THE FUNNIES (2 OF 13)



"Who's the sickest?"

THE FUNNIES (3 OF 13)



"I'm not saying that I don't have intimacy issues. I'm just saying that I prefer to work on them by myself."

THE FUNNIES (4 OF 13)



"I wish you wouldn't do that, Edwin."

THE FUNNIES (5 OF 13)



"Say when."

THE FUNNIES (6 OF 13)



"Geez, you're the worst focus group I've ever seen."

THE FUNNIES (7 OF 13)



*"Might I suggest the most expensive
wine and the most expensive dinner?"*

THE FUNNIES (8 OF 13)



*"Better read it yourself, Sparky.
Uncle Sal's had it up to here with fairy crap."*

THE FUNNIES (9 OF 13)



“Great fall, Josh!”

THE FUNNIES (10 OF 13)



*“That is not one of the seven habits
of highly effective people.”*

THE FUNNIES (II OF 13)



“Mr. Mistrum, here, will help you with the short end of the stick.”

THE FUNNIES (12 OF 13)



"Your daughter is a pain in the ass."

THE FUNNIES (13 OF 13)







*"I'm sorry, sir, but I don't believe you know us
well enough to call us the Fed."*



*"No writers were harmed or mistreated in
the preparation of this story."*

"THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS"



AVARICE



GLUTTONY



PRIDE



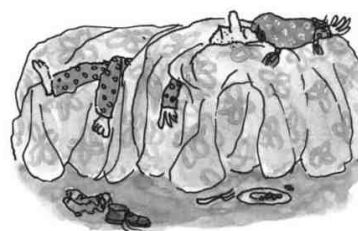
ENVY



WRATH



LUST



SLOTH

'The Seven Deadly Sins'



"You're born, you deconstruct your childhood, and then you die."



"Thanks a lot, Dr. Kevorkian, but I think I'd like a second opinion."



"May I have a tiny umbrella in this, Ernie? I'm on vacation."



*“What you want to be holding is a halberd.
What you’ve got there is an adjustable cheese slicer.”*



"He knows when you are sleeping. He knows when you're awake."





"A four-star general must be a very good general indeed."



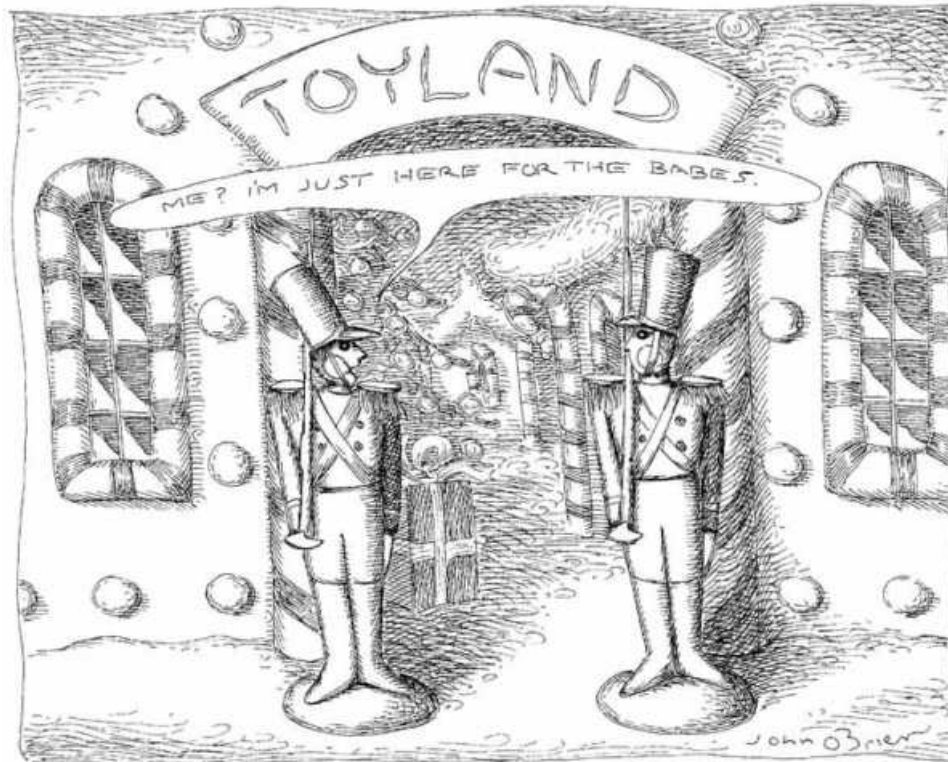


"Daddy made it a point not to wear gold cufflinks when he did his Christmas tips."



"If I heard it once, I heard it a thousand times. 'Margie,' he'd say, 'when I die, the business dies with me.'"







"You're saying that because of the merger I have to admit both of you?"





"Main floor, aisle six, ladies' scarves. Shopper down."



"Show me the way to the next karaoke bar."

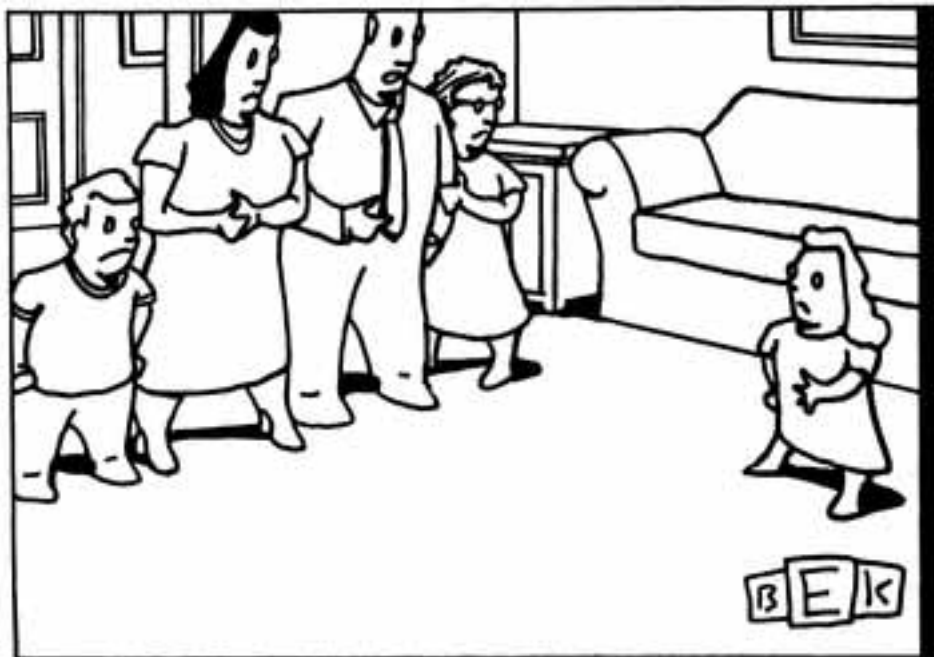




“You’re great. But now it’s on to the next thing.”



"I'll have the prayer breakfast."



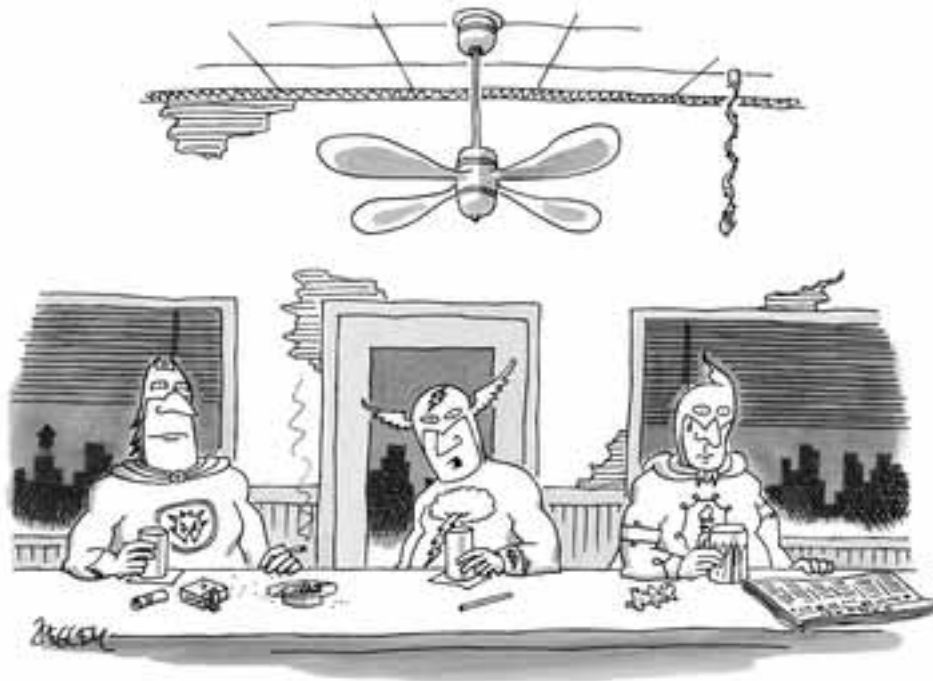
“Bad news—we’re all out of our minds. You’re going to have to be the lone healthy person in this family.”



Charles Barsotti

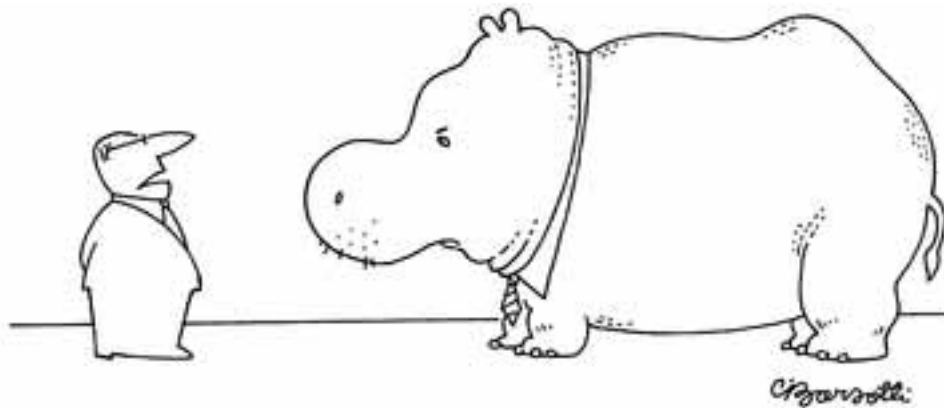
"Hey, I'd recognize your squeaky, high-pitched voice anytime."





*“When those damn graphic novels started coming out—
that’s when it all went down the toilet.”*





*“And yet, as we look at our lives, can’t many of us say,
‘My cubicle is too small?’”*



"I'll put your application on file, Mr. Brandt, but I'm quite happy with my current paperweight."

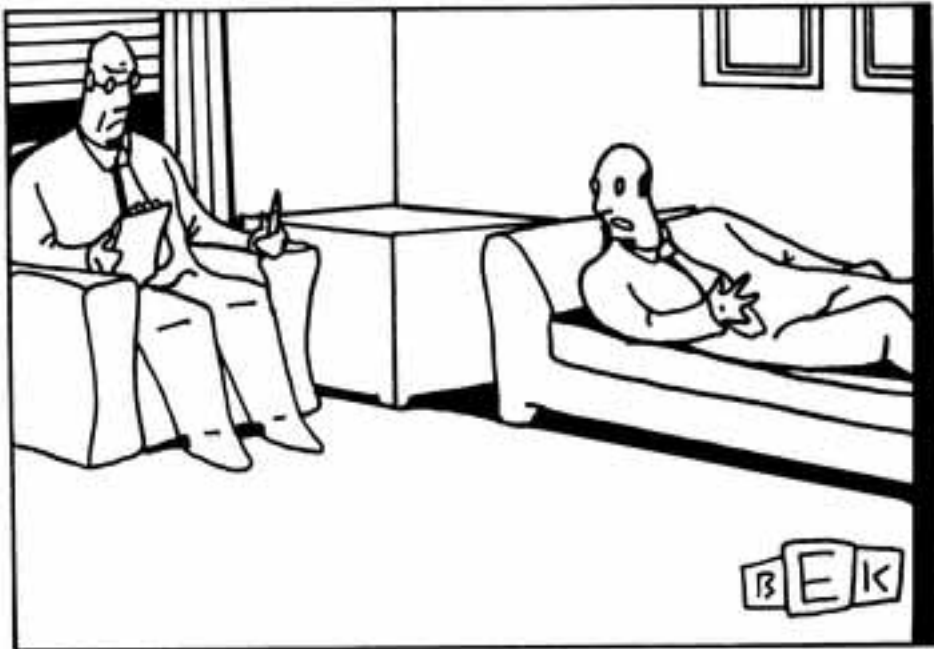


“Could you read the part where Stephen envisions life outside Dublin again?”



“Mom, where are we on the food chain?”





"O.K., you told me so. May I continue."



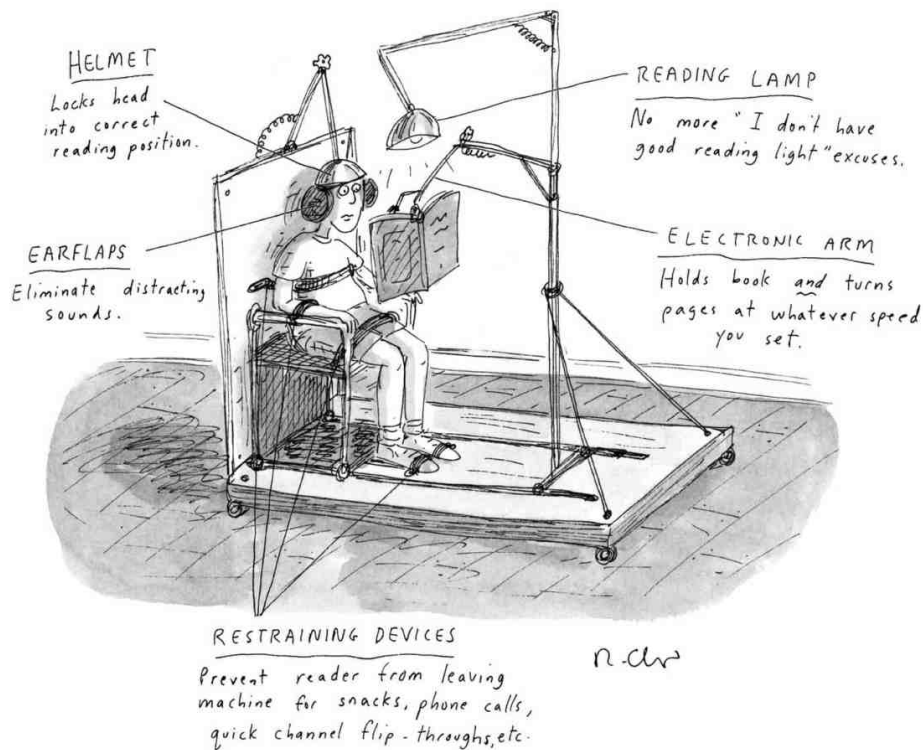
"It's your friend who writes about wine."



"I see. And precisely what methods did you use to determine that my client was a 'bad boy'?"

NORDIC TRAK

READING MACHINE





"Now we'll need a sitter for New Year's Eve."



"We're in our lab coats. Now what?"



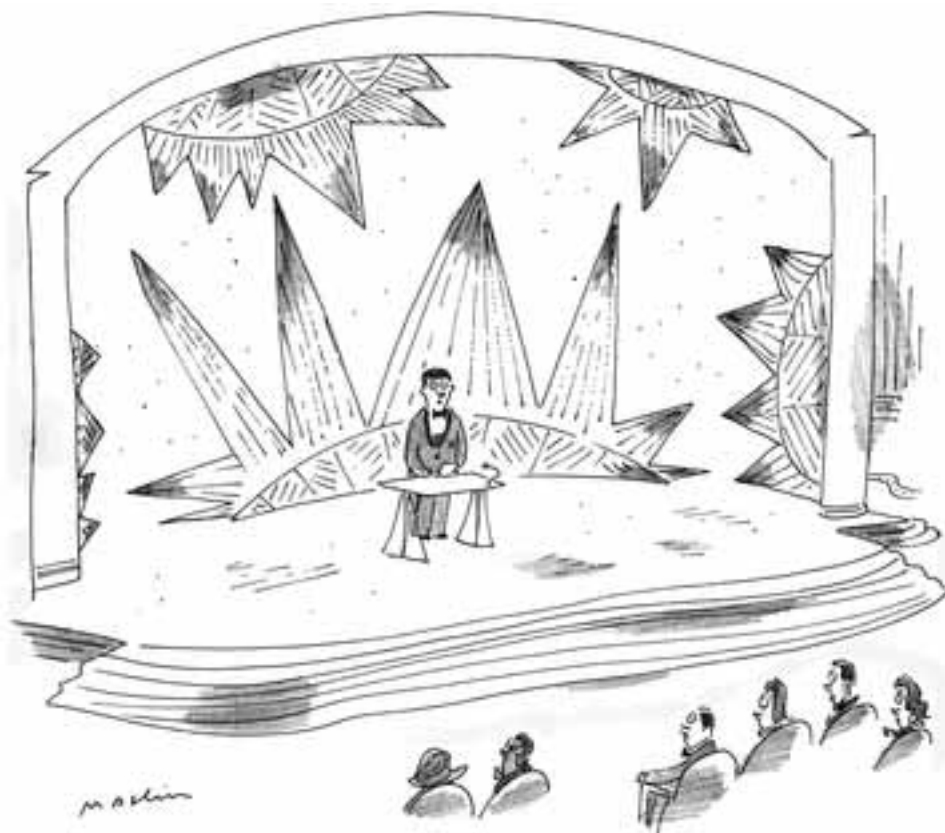
"It's all in my book, but it's out of print."



"Uh-oh."



"He certainly makes the trains run on time."



*"And now, the award for most chutzpah by an individual
in a flock, or horde, of reporters."*





"Another round?"



“And, just to be on the safe side, tongue of attorney.”



"The dog got locked in your car last night, Mr. Ferguson."



"I want to report a dénouement."